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ABSTRACT

This report is a description of self-reported health behavior and attitudes of American youths based on questionnaire responses of a national probability sample of noninstitutionalized youths, 12 through 17 years of age. Topics include behavior and attitudes relating to general health status, cigarette smoking, physical appearance, personal independence, use of leisure time, values, perception of the need for medical or dental care, and aspects of social behavior. Variations in health behavior and attitudes associated with the age attitudes associated with the age and sex of the youths are also discussed. Fifty detailed tables are included. Appended are technical notes and self-report questionnaire forms. (Author/RC)

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VITAL and HEALTH STATISTICS
DATA FROM THE NATIONAL HEALTH SURVEY
Series 11-Number 147

NCHS NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS

Self-Reported Health Behavior and Attitudes of Youths 12-17 Years

United States

U S DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
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2

Series 11 reports present findings from the National Health Examination Survey, which obtains data through direct examination, tests, and measurements of samples of the U.S. population. Reports 1 through 38 relate to the adult program, Cycle I of the Health Examination Survey. The present report is one of a number of reports of findings from the children and youth programs, Cycles II and III of the Health Examination Survey. These latter reports from Cycles II and III are being published in Series 11 but are numbered consecutively beginning with 101. It is hoped this will guide users to the data in which they are interested.

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NATIONAL HEALTH SURVEY

Series 11
Number 147

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
Public Health Service

Health Resources Administration
National Center for Health Statistics
Rockville, Md. April 1975

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COOPERATION OF THE BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

In accordance with specifications established by the National Health Survey, the Bureau of the Census, under a contractual agreement, participated in the design and selection of the sample, and carried out the first stage of the field interviewing and certain parts of the statistical processing.

Vital and Health Statistics-Series 11-No. 147

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SYMBOLS

Data not available	...
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Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision	*

SELF-REPORTED HEALTH BEHAVIOR AND ATTITUDES OF YOUTHS 12-17 YEARS

James Scanlon, *Division of Health Examination Statistics*

INTRODUCTION

This report presents information on selected health characteristics, behavior, and attitudes of American youths. Data were obtained from questionnaires completed by the youths themselves in the national Health Examination Survey of 1966-70,[1] in which a national probability sample of noninstitutionalized youths 12 through 17 years of age was selected and examined.

Previous Health Examination Surveys have focused on noninstitutionalized adults 18 through 79 years of age[2-4] and noninstitutionalized children 6 through 11 years of age.[5,6] The program of Health Examination Surveys is one of several administered by the National Center for Health Statistics, whose mission includes the collection and dissemination of a wide range of health information about the population of the United States.

Field operations for the survey of youths began in March 1966 and were completed in March 1970. Of the 7,514 youths selected for the sample, 6,768 were examined, a response rate of 90 percent. Because of the sample design, adjustment for nonresponse, and weighting procedures employed, national estimates based on survey results may be considered representative of the approximately 23 million noninstitutionalized youths 12 through 17 years of age in the United States during the 4-year period of the survey.[1] A distribution of the sample youths according to age and sex and estimates of the population they represent are shown in appendix I (table I).

Each youth in the sample was administered a 3-hour single-visit examination in a mobile examination center constructed specially for the survey. The examination focused primarily on growth and development and on adolescent health. It included examinations by a physician and a dentist, several tests administered by a psychologist, and a variety of additional tests and measurements performed by health technicians. Further description of the survey plan, sample design, examination content, and operation of the survey of youths is presented in appendix I and in a previous report.[1]

Several questionnaires were employed to supplement the information obtained by direct examination. Among them were a household questionnaire administered by an interviewer from the U.S. Bureau of the Census to obtain demographic and socioeconomic information; two medical histories for each youth, one completed by a parent and the other by the youth himself; and a health behavior questionnaire completed by the youth at the examination center. For those youths enrolled in school, additional questionnaire information was requested from school officials regarding grade placement, absenteeism, disciplinary problems, grades skipped or repeated, and health, academic, or adjustment problems that required special resources or facilities. A teacher's rating of each youth's behavior, ability, and academic performance was also sought. In addition, a birth certificate was obtained to verify each youth's age and to gain other information relating to the youth at birth. All information in the survey was collected under an assurance of confidentiality.

The Self-Report Questionnaires

The areas of health information and attitudes, personal values, development of independence, use of leisure time, and social behavior are but a few of many topics pertinent to the study of adolescent health, growth, and development. To obtain this type of information, three questionnaires were developed by the survey staff in consultation with an advisory panel and other professionals in the field of adolescent health.[1] The resulting questionnaires were the *Medical History of Youth*, completed by the parent; the *Health Habits and History Questionnaire*, completed by the youth at home; and the *Health Behavior Questionnaire*, completed by the youth at the examination center. The key factor leading to the decision to use three questionnaires was the realization that some questions can be answered best by parents, while other information can be obtained most accurately from the youth. In addition, it was felt that certain questions asked of the youth might be answered more frankly in the examination center than in the home. Information about the youth from different sources also permits comparison of perceptions of his attitudes and behavior among parents, the youth himself, and school officials.

Two reports, one dealing with information from the school questionnaire and the other with information from the medical history of the youth completed by the parent, have been published.[7,8] Another report, which relates physical examination findings and the youth's health history as reported by a parent, has also been published.[9] The present report is limited to an analysis of age and sex variations in responses to the two questionnaires completed by the youths themselves. Medical history information is not included in this report.

The *Health Habits and History Questionnaire*, reproduced in appendix II, was left for the youth to complete at home and bring to the mobile examination center at the time of examination. The questionnaire tapped areas such as medical history, limitation of activity for health reasons, attitudes toward physical appearance and development, eating habits, sleep disturbances, school, work, allowance, utilization of health resources, and use of leisure time. Other questions served to alert the examining physician to conditions that might require the administration of additional examination procedures or preclude the administration of others.

The *Health Behavior Questionnaire*, as noted earlier, was answered by the youth at the examination center, usually after the completion of the psychological test battery. The form is reproduced in appendix II. It contained questions on educational goals, decisionmaking practices in the home, cigarette smoking behavior, the importance of several personality characteristics or values to the youth, aspects of social behavior such as dating and experiences with law enforcement agents, and attitudes toward the need for treatment of selected medical and dental conditions.

Limitations of the Data

In a large-scale, multidisciplinary endeavor such as the Health Examination Survey, few single health factors, whether physiological, dental, physical, or psychological, can be evaluated as thoroughly as desired. This was especially true of the information collected by questionnaire, much of which was collected primarily to study interrelationships with examination findings. Thus some attitudes and behavioral aspects of adolescent health, growth, and development could be studied only to a limited degree; in some instances, such as teenage drinking and drug use, they could not be studied at all. Nonetheless, the self-reported questionnaire responses of a national probability sample of predominantly normal adolescents provide a wealth of information and have considerable value in themselves for providing insights into adolescent health and development. Although more complex analysis of the questionnaire data could be and, to a limited extent, has been undertaken,[10] this report follows the descriptive format of previous reports dealing with questionnaire data from the national Health Examination Survey of children 6-11 years of age, completed in 1965.[11-13] Subsequent reports will explore the relationship of questionnaire information presented in this report to the biomedical and psychological information obtained in the survey.

Since the estimates shown in this report are based on a sample of the population of youths aged

12-17 years, and statistically weighted to represent that population, they are subject to sampling variability. Standard errors of selected estimates shown in this report are presented in the detailed tables and discussed in appendix I. The standard errors were computed by a half-sample pseudo-replication technique which takes into account the complex design of the sample.[14,15] Further, the fact that the survey was restricted to the noninstitutionalized population of youths must be considered in interpreting the findings presented.

Median ages are shown in several of the detailed tables. Median ages are based on each respondent's recollection of the age at which a particular behavior or condition began, for example, the age at which he or she first began smoking. It was assumed that when answering this type of question the youths generally reported their age in years at last birthday, so a half year has been added to the median age computed from reported ages. The medians presented should therefore be considered as approximations.

Finally, a brief explanation of the definition of age used in this report is appropriate. Age was defined as the age of the youth in years at last birthday as of the date of the examination. The age criterion for inclusion in the sample was based on age at the time of the first household interview. Since the examination usually took place 2 to 4 weeks after the interview, some youths who were 17 years old at the time of interview had become 18 years old by the time of examination. There were 58 such instances. In the sample adjustment and weighting procedures those youths were included in the 17-year-old age group.

FINDINGS

General Health Status

When asked to describe their current health, American youths tend to perceive themselves as quite healthy. An estimated 60 percent of the noninstitutionalized 12-17-year-olds in the United States rated their health as *very good* or *excellent* (table 1 and figure 1). An additional 36 percent described their health as *good*. About one of every four youths reported excellent health, while only

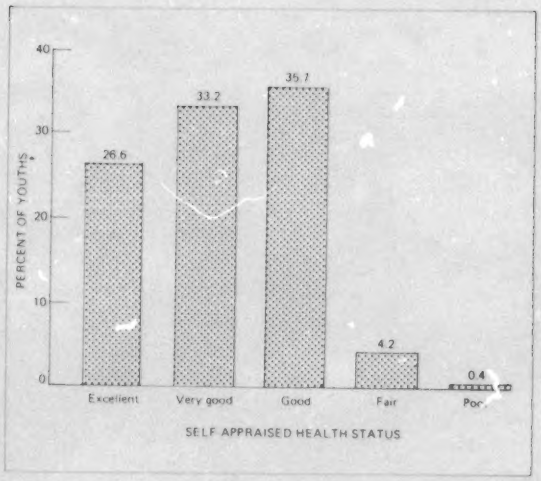

Figure 1. Percent distribution of U.S. youths 12-17 years of age by self-appraised health status.

about four youths per 1,000 appraised their health as poor. Self-appraisals of *poor* or *fair* health increased slightly with age. Boys were more likely than girls to report excellent health, and there were proportionately more girls than boys among the 4 percent of the youths who considered themselves in fair health. About one of every 10 youths reported having a health problem which he or she might like to discuss with a doctor (table 1).

When queried about frequency of anxiety, that is, feeling tense or nervous, about 8 percent of the youths stated they *often* had such feelings (table 2). About 36 percent replied that they *sometimes* felt nervous, while an additional 36 percent reported that they only *rarely* experienced anxiety. About 20 percent of the youths reported *never* feeling anxious. Girls reported greater frequency of anxiety feelings than boys, and this complaint tended to increase with age, a trend more evident for boys than for girls.

Patterns of Cigarette Smoking

More than half the youths in the survey, 54 percent, reported that they had never tried smoking, but this figure was closely associated with sex and age (tables 3 and A). About 31 percent of the teenagers reported that they had tried smoking but no longer smoked at all at the time

Table A. Percent distribution of youths in selected age groups by current smoker status, according to sex: United States, 1966-70

Selected age group and sex	Current smoker status			
	Total	Smoke regularly[1]	Don't smoke at all now	Never smoked
	Percent distribution			
12-17 years				
Both sexes	100.0	14.7	31.1	54.3
Boys	100.0	18.3	32.6	49.0
Girls	100.0	10.9	29.5	59.7
12 years				
Both sexes	100.0	3.5	19.1	77.5
Boys	100.0	5.3	23.1	71.6
Girls		1.6	14.8	83.5
17 years				
Both sexes		31.4	35.4	33.2
Boys	100.0	40.6	32.3	27.1
Girls	100.0	21.9	38.6	39.4

[1]Includes a very small percentage of youths, 0.4 percent, who indicated that they did not smoke cigarettes but did smoke pipes or cigars.

of the survey. The remainder of the youths, about 15 percent, were considered current regular smokers on the basis of their questionnaire responses. The percentage of youths who reported regular smoking increased, as expected, from about 4 percent among 12-year-olds to about 31 percent among 17-year-olds. Of the 15 percent who reported smoking regularly, about 61 percent smoked less than half a pack of cigarettes per day, 25 percent smoked between half and one pack a day, and about 14 percent smoked one or more packs a day.

The extent of regular smoking among youths was related to sex as well as to age (figure 2). Boys were more likely than girls to report themselves as regular smokers—18 percent versus 11 percent.

Youths who indicated that they had tried smoking at least once also reported the age at which they first tried it. Table 4 presents that information for 17-year-olds. The estimates for 17-year-olds indicate that boys experimented with smoking earlier than girls did. In addition, regular

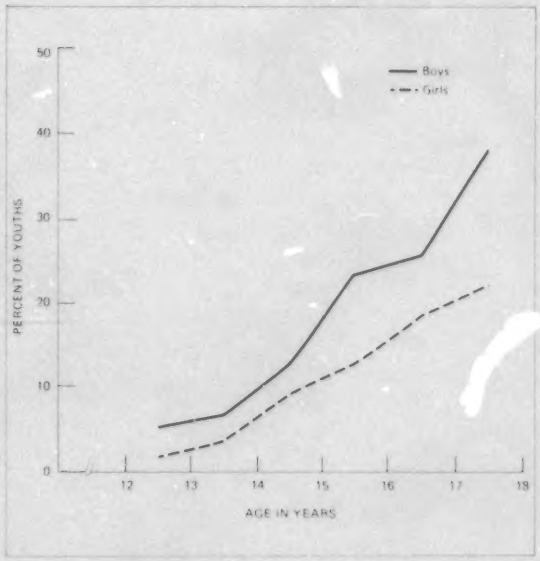

Figure 2. Percent of U.S. youths reporting themselves as regular smokers, by age and sex.

smokers first tried smoking earlier than those youths who had tried smoking but were not current regular smokers (table 4). Information on the ages when 17-year-old regular smokers began smoking regularly is shown in table 5.

Additional information on patterns of cigarette smoking among youths in 1968, 1970, and 1972 is available in reports from the National Clearinghouse for Smoking and Health.[16,17] Those reports present results of interviews, most of them telephone interviews, of national samples of youths 12 through 18 years of age. The Clearinghouse Survey findings for 1968 on current smokers in the age range 12 through 17 are somewhat lower than findings from the present study for the same age group. About 14 percent of the boys in the Clearinghouse Survey were reported as current regular or current occasional smokers, while an estimated 18 percent of boys in the United States were judged regular smokers on the basis of questionnaire responses in the Health Examination Survey. For girls also the Health Examination Survey estimate of about 11 percent exceeds the National Clearinghouse Survey figure of about 8 percent. At each year of age the percentages of boys and girls representing themselves as regular smokers were higher in the Health Examination Survey than in the National Clearinghouse Survey. These small differences can probably be attributed to the differing methodologies of the two surveys, including sample design, setting and wording of the questions, and differences in definitions. Information on patterns of cigarette smoking in the United States among persons 17 years of age or older is available in publications of the National Health Interview Survey,[18,19] another continuing program of the National Center for Health Statistics.

Attitudes Toward Physical Appearance

One of the major areas of adjustment during adolescence concerns physical growth and changes and the development of an image of one's physical self, or body image. Characteristics of the body such as weight, height, proportion, appearance, facial complexion, and attractiveness play intimate roles in personal and social adjustment and in the development of one's self-concept.[20] In this section sex differences and age-related changes in the attitudes of teenagers toward aspects of their physical development and appearance are analyzed.

Perception of current weight.—At first glance, responses to the series of questions on appearance are hardly surprising. Youths who perceived themselves as overweight or underweight, for example, also perceived themselves as being fatter or thinner than others and would prefer to be thinner or heavier, respectively, than they were. Boys and girls differed considerably in their attitudes, however, and older youths often expressed different attitudes than younger ones.

About two of every three youths felt that they were *about the right weight* (table 6). The percentage of youths rating themselves this way decreased with age, but even among the 17-year-olds, the majority, 62 percent, thought their weight was "about right." About one youth in five considered himself or herself *overweight,* and about one in eight considered himself or herself *underweight.* Both figures increased slightly as age increased.

Differences between boys and girls in self-perceptions of body weight were striking (figure 3). Proportionately more boys than girls considered themselves about the right weight. Of those who did not, boys were twice as likely as girls to consider themselves underweight. Girls, on the other hand, were more than twice as likely as boys to consider themselves overweight.

Responses to the question asking the youth to compare his or her appearance, or build, with that of most persons of the same age are shown in table 6 and roughly parallel responses to the previous question on perceived weight. Physical measurements of skinfold thickness at five anatomical locations taken in the survey indicate that at every age girls actually have more body fat (greater median skinfold thickness) than boys have.[21]

When asked about the body build or weight they would prefer to have, slightly less than half the youths reported that they would like to be *about the same weight* as they were (table 6). Again, age and sex were correlated with preferred appearance. About 55 percent of the boys and 41 percent of the girls preferred to be about the same weight as they were, a statistically significant

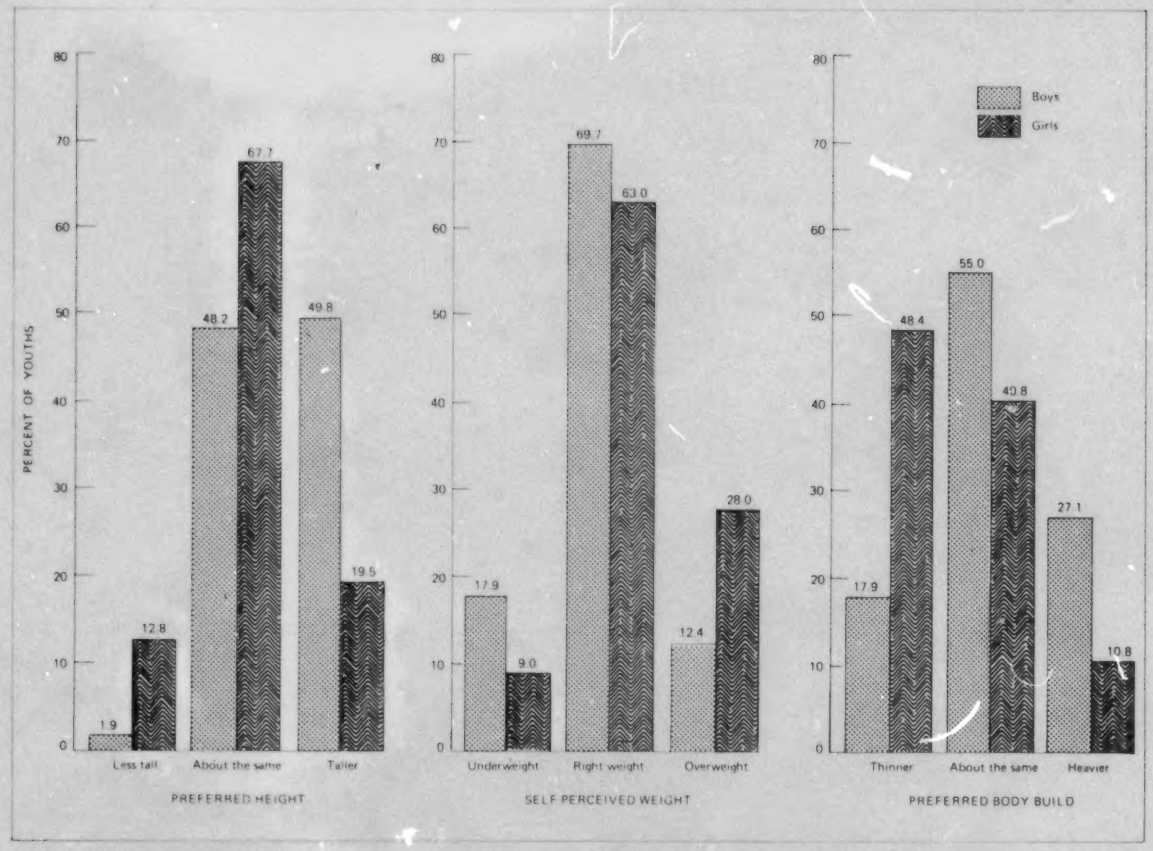

Figure 3. Percent distributions of U.S. youths 12-17 years of age by preferred height, self-perceived weight, and preferred body build, according to sex.

difference[a] (figure 3). Satisfaction with present weight also decreased as youths grew older. At age 17, about one-half of the boys but only one-third of the girls expressed satisfaction with their present weight. Almost half of all the girls would like to be *thinner* than they were, and this response increased with age. The proportion of boys who would rather be thinner, about 18 percent, was smaller than the corresponding proportion of girls. Conversely, the proportion of boys who would like to be *heavier*, 27 percent, was greater than that for girls, about 11 percent, and rose from 20 percent at age 12 to about 35 percent at age 17.

As stated earlier, the majority of youths who thought they were thinner than most of their peers would choose to be heavier (66 percent), those who thought they were about average in weight would prefer to remain so (62 percent), and youths who perceived themselves as heavier than most would prefer to be thinner (33 percent). However, the patterns of relationships between *perceived* and *preferred* body build or weight were distinctly different among boys and girls (tables 7 and B). Although the majority of youths who thought they were thinner than most would rather be heavier, the percentages reporting so were 74 for boys and 56 for girls, a statistically significant difference. Apparently, many girls who consider themselves thin prefer to remain thin or to be even thinner, while most thin boys would like to be heavier.

[a] In this report, the word "significant" refers to statistical significance at the 95-percent confidence level.

Table B. Percent distribution of youths 12-17 years of age by preferred body build, according to sex and self-perceived body build: United States, 1966-70

Sex and self-perceived body build	Preferred body build			
	Total	Thinner	About the same	Heavier
Both sexes	Percent distribution			
Thinner than most-	100.0	4.1	29.5	66.4
Same as most------	100.0	25.7	62.3	12.1
Heavier than most-	100.0	83.1	14.7	2.2
Boys				
Thinner than most-	100.0	1.4	24.5	74.1
Same as most------	100.0	10.7	70.2	19.2
Heavier than most-	100.0	68.3	26.9	4.8
Girls				
Thinner than most-	100.0	7.9	36.2	55.9
Same as most------	100.0	41.6	53.9	4.6
Heavier than most-	100.0	93.7	6.0	0.4

Even among those youths who felt that they were about average in body build, more boys (70 percent) than girls (54 percent) preferred to remain so. About four of every 10 girls, but only one in 10 boys, who felt they were about average in weight would rather be thinner. Of youths who viewed their weight as average, one of every five boys, but only one in 20 girls, would rather be heavier.

Boys and girls who thought they were heavier then most showed very similar differences in attitudes. Almost all of these girls stated that they would like to be thinner, while about one-fourth of these boys preferred to remain as heavy as they were, and about 5 percent would choose to be even heavier.

Preferred height.— About 58 percent of the youths indicated they were satisfied with their present height (table 6). Girls were more likely than boys to express satisfaction with their present height (figure 3). About half of all boys stated they would like to be taller than they were, while only 2 percent would rather be shorter. Among girls, about 20 percent would prefer to be taller, and about 13 percent, shorter.

Acne.—Self-reports from the present survey corroborate the observation that acne, at least in mild degrees, is a fairly common condition among adolescents.[22] About half of the youths reported that they had acne, pimples, or blackheads (table 8). Age trends and sex differences were

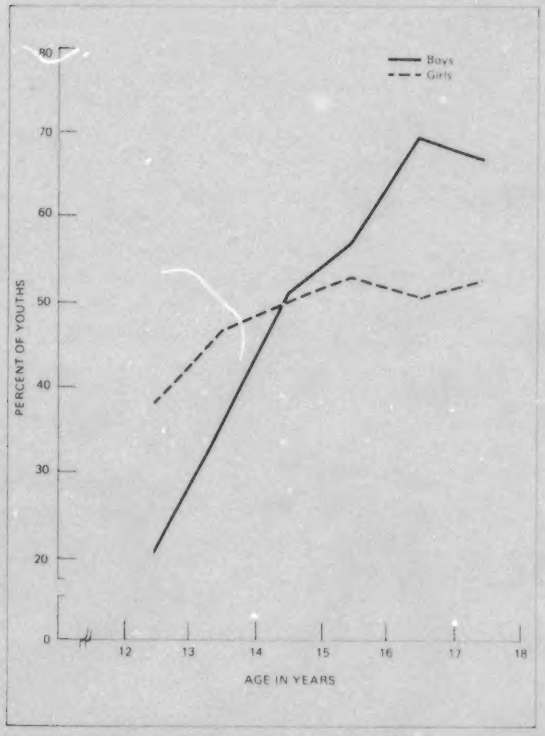

Figure 4. Percent of U.S. youths reporting acne, pimples, or blackheads, by age and sex.

evident in responses to the series of questions on acne. While the overall prevalence of self-reported acne did not differ significantly by sex, variations in prevalence were apparent at different ages (figure 4). In the age range 12-17 years, the prevalence of self-reported acne increased with age among both boys and girls. Girls reported an earlier onset of acne than boys did (table 9).

Of the youths who reported that they had acne, 58 percent indicated they were using some treatment for it (table 8). At every age girls were more likely than boys to be using some treatment. Further, of the youths with acne, 11 percent stated that they had seen a doctor about it, a percentage which tended to increase with age (table 8). Apparently a good deal of self-medication for acne exists among youths.

About 14 percent of the youths reporting acne indicated that their acne worried them *quite a lot* (table 8). Girls expressed more concern over

acne than boys did; however, among both sexes, only 16 percent reported they were *not at all* bothered by their acne. The majority of youths, about seven of every 10, responded that their skin condition bothered them *very little* or *some but not much.*

Eating habits and perceived body weight.— Eating patterns and the dietary attitudes and practices of youths have long intrigued both parents and professional students of human behavior.[22] When youths in the present study were asked about their eating habits, three of every four thought they ate *about the right amount* (table 10). Proportionately more teenagers, about 19 percent, felt they ate *too much* than *too little,* about 7 percent. Girls were more likely than boys to report that they ate too much, while proportionately more boys than girls felt that they ate about the right amount (figure 5). The percentages of boys and girls who felt they ate too little were about equal. Responses to the question did not vary with age.

Parents' ratings of their children's eating habits were obtained in the previous Health Examination Survey of children 6-11 years of age.[11] In the earlier survey about three of every four children were considered by their parents to usually eat enough. Approximately the same proportion was found in the present study in which teenagers rated themselves. The two surveys also found, in agreement, that more boys than girls were rated as usually eating enough and that more girls than boys were thought to eat too little.

The relationship observed in the present study between the eating habits of youths and their perceived weight is shown in tables 11 and C. As expected, most (85 percent) of the youths who considered themselves about the right weight also felt they ate about the right amount. However, among the teenagers who considered themselves underweight, most (63 percent) thought they ate about the right amount and only about 28 percent thought they ate too little. About 54 percent of the teenagers who rated themselves overweight felt that they ate too much, while 44 percent felt they ate about the right amount.

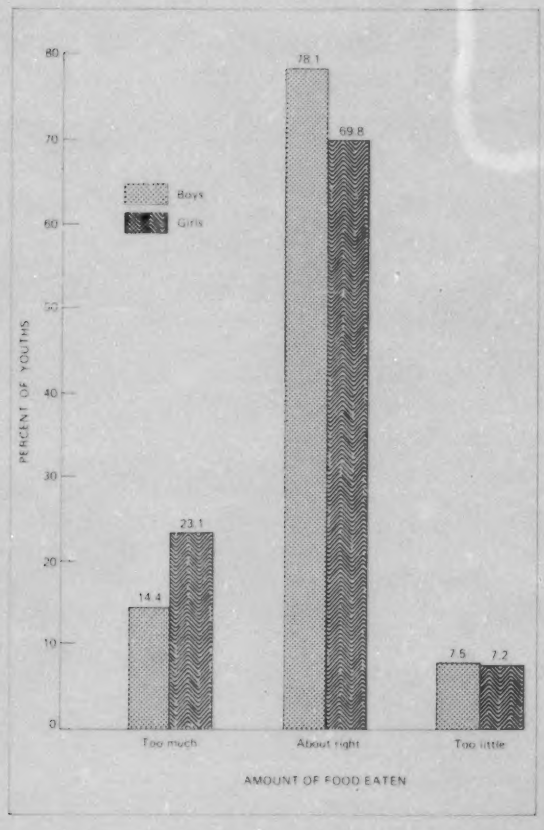

Figure 5. Percent distribution of U.S. youths 12-17 years of age by self-assessment of amount of food eaten, according to sex.

Table C. Percent distribution of youths 12-17 years of age by amount of food eaten, according to sex and self-perceived weight: United States, 1966-70

Sex and self-perceived weight	Amount of food eaten			
	Total	Too much	Right amount	Too little
Boys	Percent distribution			
Underweight-----	100.0	10.3	64.8	24.9
Right weight----	100.0	8.7	87.0	4.3
Overweight------	100.0	52.3	46.8	0.9
Girls				
Underweight-----	100.0	8.9	58.4	32.7
Right weight----	100.0	10.8	83.6	5.6
Overweight------	100.0	55.4	42.4	2.2

Sleep-Related Behavior

Sleep patterns, disturbances, and related behavior have been the subjects of extensive research.[23,24] Studies have attempted to determine the relationship of sleep to mood, behavior, memory, and general development as well as to physical and mental health. Sleep disorders appear to arise from many causes. The extent of several types of sleep disorders among American youths is discussed below. Other behavior related to sleep is also discussed.

Insomnia.—About 7 percent of the youths reported that they *very often* had trouble getting to sleep or staying asleep (table 12). About 44 percent experienced such difficulties *only from time to time*, and about half of the youths reported that they *never* had such difficulties. Girls were more likely than boys to express this complaint, the largest differences occurring among the 14- through 17-year-olds. In addition, more older youths reported trouble sleeping than younger ones. The difference between boys and girls in sleep difficulties is consistent with findings from an earlier survey of adults.[25]

Nightmares.—About 3 percent of the youths reported that they *quite frequently* had bad dreams or nightmares (table 12). The percentages of girls and boys who had frequent nightmares were about equal, and there was no clear trend with age. About 39 percent of the boys and 47 percent of the girls reported they had disturbing dreams *only from time to time*. Proportionately more boys than girls stated that they *never* had disturbing dreams (58.7 percent versus 50.1 percent), with the largest differences found in the age range 14-17 years. This sex difference in the occurrence of disturbing dreams is in agreement with previous findings from the U.S. Health Examination Survey of adults.[25] In the previous survey of children 6-11 years of age, about 2 percent of U.S. children were reported by parent to have frequent nightmares and an additional 42 percent to have them occasionally, but no statistically significant sex or age differences were noted.[11]

Sleepwalking.—About 5 percent of the youths indicated that they had walked in their sleep during the last year or so (table 12). Boys were more likely than girls to report such an incident, 6.3 percent versus 4.0 percent. The difference in sleepwalking between boys and girls was found in each age group in the present study. Sleepwalking among boys tended to decrease with age, but among girls no clear age trend could be discerned. In the previous survey of children mentioned earlier, about 10 percent of 6-11-year-olds were reported by their parents as having walked in their sleep, about 1 percent frequently and 9 percent sometimes but not often.[11]

Sleeping arrangements.—About half of the youths reported that they slept alone in their own room (table 13). Sleeping arrangements were related to age, continuing a trend observed in the previous survey of children.[11] The percentage of boys who had rooms of their own increased consistently with age, rising from about 36 percent of 12-year-olds to 62 percent of 17-year-olds. Among girls, the proportion increased from 36 percent at age 12 to about 55 percent at age 15 and then leveled off. The only statistically significant difference between girls and boys in this area was found among the 17-year-olds, where more boys than girls had rooms of their own. Most girls who shared a room did so with one or more sisters, and most boys who shared a room did so with one or more brothers (table 13). It is believed that sleeping arrangements are associated with socioeconomic level and cultural patterns.

Bedtime.—The youths were asked at what hour they usually went to bed when the next day was a schoolday or workday. Responses are shown in table 14 by age and sex and in figure 6 by age. The median, or typical, bedtime for all 12- through 17-year-olds was shortly after 10 p.m. and was about the same for boys as for girls. As expected, older teenagers stayed up later than younger ones. Continuing a trend found in the previous survey of children,[11] median bedtime increased with age from about 9:40 p.m. for 12-year-olds to near 11 p.m. for 17-year-olds.

Family Relationships and the Development of Personal Independence

A number of the survey questions focused on the development of personal independence as reflected in autonomy in decisionmaking practices

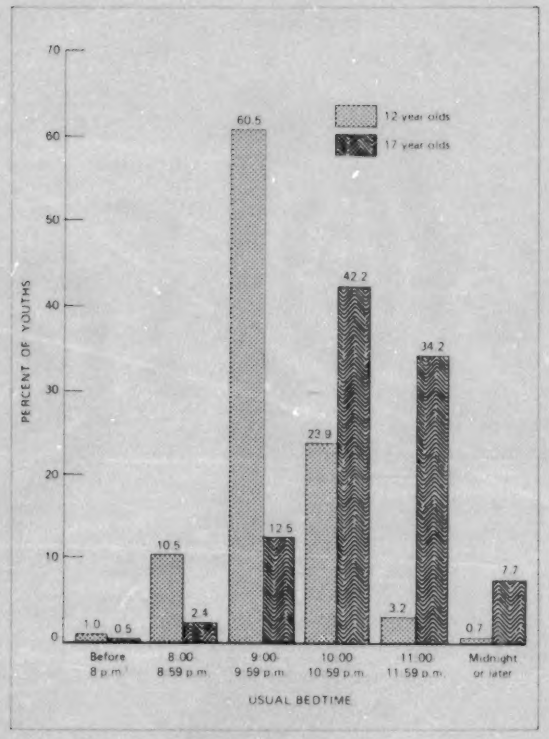

Figure 6. Percent distributions of 12- and 17-year-old U.S. youths by usual bedtime on weeknights.

in the home, as well as in receiving, performing chores for, and deciding how to spend an allowance. Responses to another question dealing with having been away from home for a considerable time are also discussed in this section as an indicator of independence, namely, functioning outside the emotional support of the immediate family.

Because decisionmaking practices are to some extent dependent on the presence of parents or guardians in the home, a brief discussion of the composition of the households of youths represented by the present sample is appropriate. For about 86 percent of the youths, two persons were listed on the census interview form as parents or guardians, the most frequent combination being mother and father (78 percent of all youths). For the remaining 14 percent of the youths, the household was apparently headed by one person, usually the mother (in about 12 percent of the cases) and much less often the father (in about 2 percent of the cases). These figures are in fairly close agreement with 1970 U.S. Census information.[26]

Decisionmaking practices in the home.—The youths were asked to indicate who in the family made most of the decisions on "choosing your clothes," "how to spend your money," "which friends to go out with," and "how late you can stay out." Detailed responses to the questions are presented in tables 15 through 18 and summarized in table D. About 52 percent of the teenagers reported they alone decided how to spend their money, 46 percent reported autonomy in choosing their friends, 34 percent reported they usually chose their own clothes, and only 5 percent reported they were allowed to fix their own hours. Autonomy in most of those areas of decisionmaking was highly associated with the age and sex of the youths. In all areas boys reported more independence than girls, and older boys and girls reported more autonomy than younger ones.

Allowance.—About half of the youths in the survey reported that they received an allowance (table 19). Receiving an allowance was related to the age and sex of the youth. Proportionately more girls than boys reported receiving an allowance. Allowances became less common as the

Table D. Percent of youths in selected age groups reporting autonomy in decisionmaking, by sex and type of decision: United States, 1966-70

Selected age group and type of decision	Total	Boys	Girls
12-17 years	Percent of youths		
Choosing clothes	33.8	35.8	31.8
How to spend money	52.1	53.4	50.8
Friends to go out with	46.5	53.7	39.1
How late to stay out	4.6	6.7	2.5
12 years			
Choosing clothes	15.2	14.5	16.0
How to spend money	43.0	44.8	41.3
Friends to go out with	35.8	38.8	32.8
How late to stay out	1.5	2.8	0.2
17 years			
Choosing clothes	57.5	62.9	52.0
How to spend money	63.3	65.1	61.5
Friends to go out with	58.7	67.8	49.6
How late to stay out	13.4	19.5	7.1

youths grew older and began part-time work. At every age, a higher percentage of girls than boys reported receiving an allowance.

For about half of the youths who received allowances, the amount was decided by both parents (table 19). For the others, the mother alone decided the amount for about 27 percent of the youths and the father alone for about 19 percent. That pattern differed, however, for girls and for boys. Fathers tended to determine the amount for sons, while mothers tended to determine the amount for daughters.

Most youths who received an allowance, 56 percent, felt that both parents should decide the amount of their allowance (table 19). Of those who thought otherwise, a greater percentage of boys than girls felt that the father should decide—23 percent compared to 12.5 percent. Correspondingly, more girls than boys believed that the mother should decide. The option of choosing one's own amount of allowance was not offered.

About seven of every 10 youths who received an allowance reported that they had to perform chores or duties for the money they received (table 19). Responses were similar for boys and for girls. Further, about one of every four youths receiving an allowance reported that the allowance was sometimes withheld as a punishment (table 19). Boys were more likely than girls to report punishment of this nature. The practice occurred less often among older youths than among younger ones.

Separation from family.—About 16 percent of noninstitutionalized youths aged 12-17 indicated that at some time they had been away from their immediate family for at least 2 months (table 20). Information regarding lengthy separation serves in this report as an indicator of independence in the sense of being able to function outside the emotional support of the immediate family. The percentage of youths who had spent at least this long a period away from home increased with age, as expected, but even among the 17-year-olds only about one youth in four had ever been away for this long a period. In the age range encompassed in the survey, proportionately more girls reported such separations than boys. The difference was small but statistically significant.

Youths who reported they had been away from home for at least 2 months were also asked where they stayed (table 20). Most of them indicated they had stayed with relatives (57 percent). About 11 percent had been at camp, 4 percent at boarding school, about 4 percent at a hospital, and about 12 percent elsewhere. About 12 percent of the youths indicated they had stayed at two or more of the places listed. Girls reported separations from their families at earlier ages than boys did.

Use of Leisure Time

Several questions in the present study asked the youths about the use of their leisure time. The youths were asked to estimate about how much time they spent during the usual day watching television; listening to the radio; reading newspapers, comics, or magazines; and, finally, reading books. Results are summarized in figure 7 and table E.

Watching television.—Almost all of the youths, 95 percent, watched some television during a usual day, with 89 percent viewing for an hour or more per day (table 21). About one out of every four youths usually watched 4 or more hours of television a day. Television viewing tended to decrease slightly with age from 12-17 years, and this trend was clearer for girls than for boys. Even at age 17, however, nine of every 10 youths watched some television on a usual day. The median, or typical, amount of time spent watching television on a usual day was approximately 3 hours. Median viewing time decreased slightly with age, declining from about 3 hours per day for 12- and 13-year-olds to about 2 hours, 20 minutes for 17-year-olds.

Present findings and those from the previous survey of children are generally consistent with findings from other large-scale studies of television viewing among children and youths.[27-30] Those studies indicate that after reaching a peak of about 3 hours per day at ages 12 or 13, the average amount of televiewing tends to decrease with age.

Listening to the radio.—About 85 percent of American youths spend some time during a usual day listening to the radio (table 22). While television viewing tended to decrease slightly as youths grew older, listening to the radio increased with age. The percentage of youths who spent some time listening to the radio increased from 74 per-

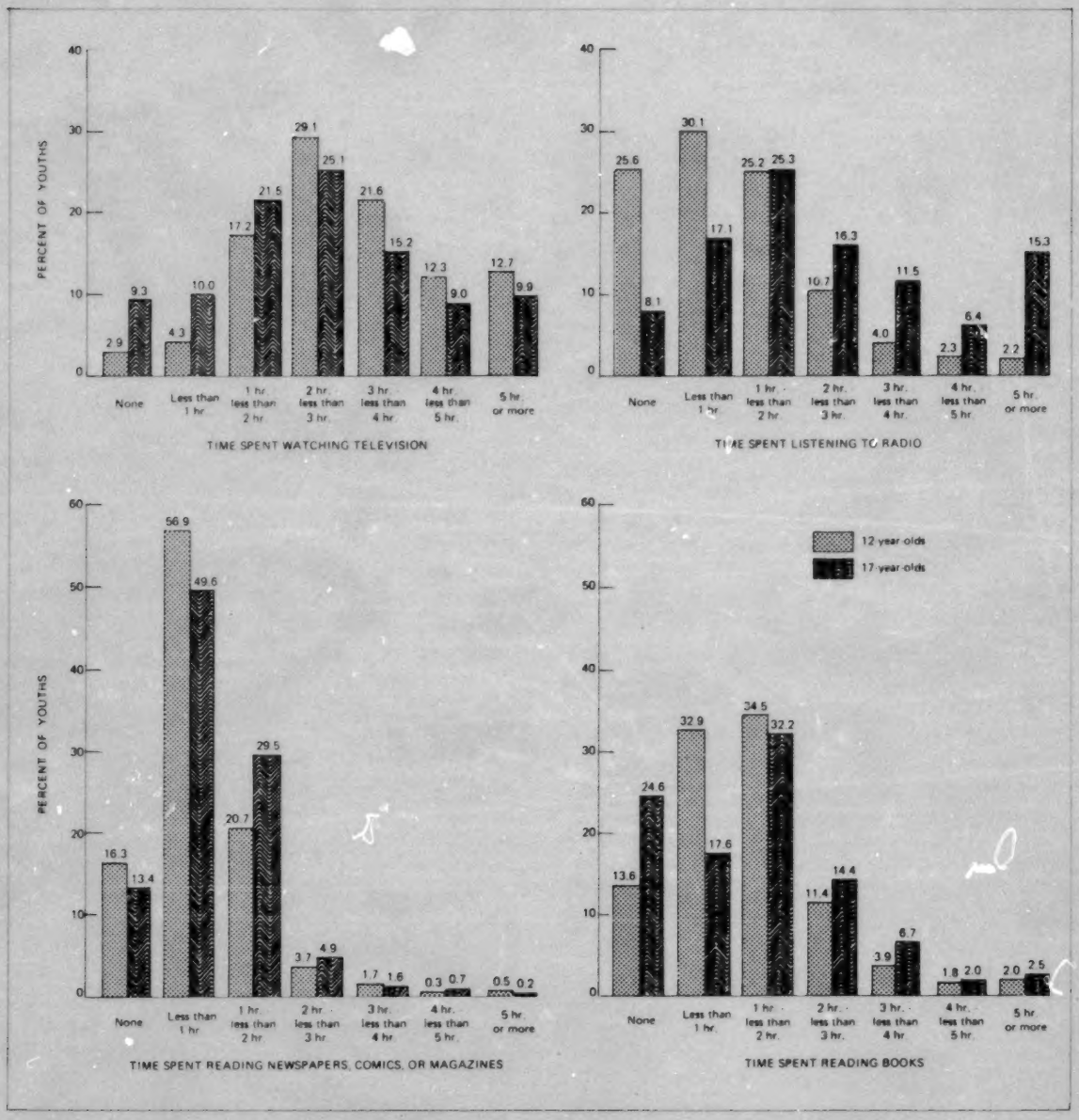

Figure 7. Percent distributions of 12- and 17-year-old U.S. youths by time spent in various leisure-time activities on a usual day.

Table E. Median length of time spent by youths in selected activities on a usual day, by sex and selected age groups: United States, 1966-70

Activity	12-17 years			12 years	17 years
	Both sexes	Boys	Girls		
	Median time (in hr. and min.)				
Watching television	2h-46m	2h-47m	2h-43m	2h-53m	2h-22m
Listening to the radio	1h-24m	1h-06m	1h-43m	0h-51m	1h-59m
Reading newspapers, comics, or magazines	0h-43m	0h-42m	0h-44m	0h-37m	0h-48m
Reading books	1h-06m	0h-55m	1h-19m	1h-06m	1h-15m

cent among 12-year-olds to 92 percent among 17-year-olds. About 61 percent of the youths reported an hour or more of radio listening per day. About 35 percent listened to the radio for 2 or more hours a day. The median, or typical, listening time was approximately an hour and a half per day. Girls spent more time listening to the radio than boys. For both sexes, median listening time increased with age.

Reading newspapers, comics, or magazines.—An estimated 86 percent of American youths spend some time reading newspapers, comics, or magazines during a usual day (table 23). About 31 percent of the youths reported reading such material for an hour or more per day. Median reading time, equal for boys and girls, was about 45 minutes per day. Median reading time increased with age from nearly 40 minutes for 12-year-olds to about 50 minutes for 17-year-olds. Slightly more girls than boys did some of this type of reading.

Reading books.—Four out of five youths reported that they spent some time during the usual day reading books (table 24). Not only did proportionately more girls than boys read books at each year of age, but girls spent more time reading than boys did. The median time for girls was about 1 hour and 20 minutes, while for boys it was slightly less than 1 hour. Older youths, especially boys, were more likely than younger ones to report spending no time reading. About 53 percent of the youths spent 1 hour or more reading books during a usual day.

School, Work, and Educational Goals

School occupies a central position in the lives of most youths in the age range encompassed in this study. About 96 percent of the youths in the survey reported that they were enrolled in school (table 25). As expected, nonenrollment was highest among the 16- and 17-year-olds.

Of the youths in school, about 40 percent reported they also worked during the school year, thus attaining some measure of economic independence (table 25). The percentage of students who worked during the school year increased as youths grew older. At every age proportionately more boys than girls reported working. At age 12, 38 percent of the boys and 27 percent of the girls reported that they worked during the school year. By age 17, 60 percent of the boys and 45 percent of the girls reported working during the school year. Older youths worked more hours per week than younger ones (table 25). About 84 percent of the youths who worked during the school year were paid for their work (table 25); by age 17, 93 percent of the youths who worked were paid for their work.

Almost half of the youths in school, 48 percent, reported that they engaged in some work during summer vacation, 12 percent working full time and about 36 percent part time (table 26). Summer work varied with the age and sex of the youth. Older youths were more likely than younger ones to engage in summer work. Boys were more likely to engage in summer work, full time or

part time, than girls were. Among 17-year-olds an estimated 84 percent of boys and 56 percent of girls worked during summer vacation.

Among youths not enrolled in school, boys and girls indicated somewhat different situations regarding employment. Since nonenrollees were mostly 16- and 17-year-olds, analysis of differences in work status in those age groups is emphasized (table 27). The following estimates concerning work status obtained in the survey apply to the period 1966-70 and are not intended as official employment statistics. They are presented for the trends and differences in demographic groups they reveal, patterns which are related to adolescent development. About 27 percent of the 16-year-old youths not in school reported that they had a job, 46 percent reported that they did not have a job but were seeking one, and 27 percent responded that they did not have a job and were not looking for one. Among 17-year-olds not in school, 50 percent reported having a job, 29 percent were looking for one, and 21 percent were not employed and not seeking employment. Work and job-seeking activities differed for girls and for boys. Among 17-year-olds who were not in school, 62 percent of the boys reported that they had a job, an additional 27 percent responded that they did not have a job but were looking for one, and only about 10 percent were neither working nor looking for work. Among 17-year-old girls not in school, the corresponding percentages were 37 percent employed, 31 percent not employed but seeking a job, and 32 percent neither having a job nor seeking one.

Youths in the present survey were also questioned about their aspirations and expectancies regarding school. The responses of youths in elementary or secondary school, an estimated 96 percent of the youths, are shown in table 28. Almost all (99 percent) reported they would like to at least finish high school, and most expressed the hope of continuing some form of education beyond high school. A very small group, about 2 percent of the 15-year-olds and 1 percent of the 16- and 17-year-olds, reported the desire to ***quit school as soon as possible.*** About 22 percent of the youths hoped to finish high school and take no further training, a percentage which was similar for girls and boys. Girls were more likely than boys to express the hope of obtaining ***some college or other training after high school,*** such as nursing, business, or trade school; the percentages were 37 percent versus 29 percent. Boys, on the other hand, were more likely than girls to aspire to ***getting a college degree*** or ***finishing college and taking further training.***

The educational desires of youths who had graduated from high school and who were not enrolled in further schooling at the time of the survey and of those who were enrolled in some post-high school education are presented in table 29. Also shown are the educational desires of the relatively small number of youths who had left school before graduating. Interestingly, only about 37 percent of the dropouts wished to remain out of school. Almost half, 48 percent, wanted to finish high school, and the remainder, about 15 percent, reported higher educational aspirations.

In addition to being asked what they would like to do about school, the youths were asked what they thought would actually happen with respect to school. Responses are shown for the same categories of current school enrollment as in the question on aspirations (tables 28 and 29). Responses to the two questions are compared in table 30.

Among youths enrolled in elementary or secondary school, aspirations and expectancies coincided for the most part, but there were some interesting exceptions. Of the 1.2 percent of youths in school who wished to quit school as soon as possible, about 62 percent thought this would actually happen, while about 30 percent thought they would probably finish high school. The rest expected to remain in the educational system beyond high school. Of the 22 percent of youths in school who wished to finish high school and pursue no further formal education, about 2 percent expected to drop out, and about 12 percent expected to continue some formal education beyond high school. Of the students who aspired to a college degree, about 20 percent did not expect to realize their desires.

Values

Among the major developmental tasks of the adolescent is the structuring of a value system which will satisfy his own self-image and provide a pattern of adaptation to the demands of the external world.[31]

Eleven questions included in the survey attempted to assess the importance to youths of a variety of personal traits or values. The traits cover the areas of socialization, orientation toward others, significant internal aspects of personality development, and general orientation to life. The inquiry was phrased: "How important do you think it is for a young person to have each of the qualities or characteristics listed below?" The response options for each trait were ***extremely important***, ***important***, ***slightly important***, and ***unimportant***. The 11 traits were:

1. To be neat and clean.
2. To be able to defend oneself.
3. To have self-control.
4. To be happy.
5. To obey one's parents.
6. To be dependable.
7. To be considerate of others.
8. To face life's problems calmly.
9. To obey the law.
10. To be ambitious.
11. To know how to keep in good health.

Percent distributions of the responses to each of the traits according to the sex and age of the youths are presented in tables 32 through 37. Results are summarized in table F.

The average number of those personal traits ranked as extremely important was about six. Girls were more likely than boys to characterize the traits as extremely important (table 31). About 8 percent of the youths regarded all 11 traits as being extremely important, while about 4 percent did not rate any of the 11 traits that way.

The relative importance of the traits varied with the sex and age of the youths and reflect attitudes of youths during the period 1966-1970. The trait most frequently rated by boys as extremely important was obedience to the law, with 70 percent responding that way. The second most important trait for boys was obedience to one's parents, considered extremely important by 64 percent. Among girls, obedience to the law tied with neatness and cleanliness as the traits most frequently chosen as extremely important; 75 percent of the girls replied in that way. The rank order of the traits according to importance to all youths is shown in table F.

Table F. Percent distribution of youths aged 12-17 years by attitudes toward selected traits: United States, 1966-70

Trait	Degree of importance				
	Total	Extremely important	Important	Slightly important	Unimportant
	Percent distribution				
To obey the law	100.0	72.3	25.1	2.2	0.4
To be neat and clean	100.0	68.4	29.5	1.8	0.3
To obey one's parents	100.0	66.1	30.8	2.5	0.6
To know how to keep in good health	100.0	64.4	33.0	2.2	0.4
To have self-control	100.0	62.9	33.8	2.6	0.7
To be dependable	100.0	59.2	36.9	3.2	0.8
To be considerate of others	100.0	51.1	44.2	3.8	1.0
To be happy	100.0	50.2	42.8	5.8	1.2
To face life's problems calmly	100.0	46.1	47.5	5.5	0.9
To be ambitious	100.0	34.1	53.0	10.4	2.5
To be able to defend oneself	100.0	30.7	55.3	12.6	1.5

Girls were more likely than boys to rate the following traits as extremely important: obedience to the law, neatness and cleanliness, obedience to one's parents, happiness, and consideration of others. Boys were more likely than girls to think that the ability to defend oneself was extremely important.

The importance attributed to several of the traits was associated with the age as well as the sex of the youths. Among boys, obedience to the law was most frequently rated as extremely important during ages 12 through 15. For 16-year-olds the trait most frequently rated as extremely important was self-control, while for the 17-year-olds it was dependability. Among girls, obedience to the law was the trait most often rated as extremely important at ages 12 and 13, but it was replaced by neatness and cleanliness at ages 14 through 17. Thus, among both boys and girls, there is a trend for obedience to the law to be less often regarded as extremely important as the youths grew older. Even at age 17, however, this trait was considered extremely important by 63 percent of the youths and considered important by an additional 33 percent. Very few 17-year-olds, about 3 percent, regarded obedience to the law as slightly important or unimportant (table 32).

The importance of being neat and clean as measured by the percentage of ratings of "extremely important" increased as girls grew older, but this trend was not apparent among boys (table 32). Obedience to parents was less frequently rated as extremely important and more often as important as youths grew older, a trend discernible among both boys and girls (table 33). A similar trend of somewhat decreasing importance with age characterized the trait of knowing how to keep in good health (table 33). The importance of having self-control increased in importance among girls as they grew older, but this was not true for boys (table 34). Other qualities that were more likely to be rated as extremely important as youths grew older were dependability, consideration for others, happiness, and ambition (tables 34-36).

Perception of the Need for Medical Care

A number of the self-report questionnaire items required the youth to rate selected medical conditions or symptoms according to the youth's self-perceived need for consulting a doctor. The youth was asked, "If you had any of the following conditions, would you want a doctor to know about it? (Includes your seeing him or a telephone call about it.)" Twelve conditions were listed (table G). For each condition the three response options were: *definitely want to see a doctor, probably want to see a doctor,* and *not want to see a doctor.* Responses to the questions are shown according to age and sex in tables 39-42 and summarized in table G. The question did not probe into the frequency, intensity, or duration of the condition or symptom.

Not unexpectedly, some of the conditions were much more likely to be perceived as serious problems than others. The relative seriousness with which youths viewed the symptoms is shown in table G, where the symptoms are ranked in severity as reflected by the percentage of responses of "definitely want to see a doctor."

Blood in urine or bowel movement was considered the most serious symptom, with three in four youths responding that they would definitely want to see a doctor if they had that condition (table G).

A lump in the stomach or abdomen was considered next most serious by boys, 68 percent. Girls viewed this symptom with as much concern as they did blood in urine or bowel movement; about three out of four girls would definitely want to see a doctor for either condition. The next most serious symptom for all youths was pain in chest, a symptom for which about half of the youths would definitely want to consult a doctor. The remaining conditions were ranked in the following order of seriousness: hurt all over (45 percent), stiff neck or back (24 percent), loss of appetite (19 percent), overtiredness (15 percent), nervousness (14 percent), vomiting (12 percent), sore throat (8 percent), stomach ache (4 percent), and headache (3 percent).

The seriousness of the conditions was perceived differently by boys and girls. Proportionately more girls than boys would definitely want to see a doctor if they had any of the following conditions or symptoms: lump in stomach (76 percent versus 68 percent), pain in chest (56 percent versus 45 percent), hurt all over (47 percent

Table G. Percent distribution of youths aged 12-17 years by perceived need for a doctor for selected medical symptoms: United States, 1966-70

Condition or symptom	Total	Definitely want to see doctor	Probably want to see doctor	Not want to see doctor
	Percent distribution			
Blood in urine or bowel movement	100.0	74.5	19.6	5.9
Lump in stomach or abdomen	100.0	71.7	22.9	5.4
Pain in chest	100.0	50.1	39.3	10.6
Hurt all over	100.0	44.6	39.4	15.9
Stiff neck or back	100.0	23.8	37.8	38.4
Loss of appetite	100.0	19.4	39.9	40.7
Overtiredness	100.0	14.8	35.8	49.4
Nervousness	100.0	13.7	43.3	42.9
Vomiting	100.0	11.9	34.3	53.8
Sore throat	100.0	8.1	36.5	55.4
Stomach ache	100.0	4.3	19.6	76.1
Headache	100.0	2.8	14.0	83.2

versus 42 percent), or stiff neck or back (26 percent versus 21 percent).

The average number of conditions or symptoms rated as indicating a definite need for consulting a doctor was 3.4 (table 38). Less than 1 percent of the youths rated all 12 conditions as definitely warranting a physician's attention, while about 14 percent thought that none of them definitely warranted calling a doctor. The distribution of responses was skewed, with four of the symptoms accounting for about 71 percent of the responses of definite need to consult a doctor.

In addition to the differences in responses between boys and girls, perceived seriousness of some of the conditions changed as youths grew older. Older youths of both sexes looked on the conditions blood in urine or bowel movement and lump in stomach with somewhat more concern than younger ones did (table 39). In addition, older girls regarded the symptom pain in the chest as more serious than younger ones did (table 39).

Conditions which were perceived as less serious by older than younger youths were hurt all over, stiff neck or back, and stomach ache. Older boys viewed the symptoms sore throat and vomiting as less serious than younger boys did, and older girls regarded loss of appetite as less serious than younger girls did.

Perception of the Need for Dental Care

In another section of the questionnaire seven dental conditions or symptoms were listed, and the youths were asked whether they would want to see a dentist if they had any of them (table H). The format of the question was similar to that for the medical conditions and symptoms. Detailed responses to each of the questions on dental conditions are shown according to the age and sex of the youths in tables 44-46. Responses indicate that, as with the medical symptoms discussed in the preceding section, youths considered it more important to consult a dentist about some conditions than about others. A ranking of the relative seriousness of the conditions as measured by the percentage of responses of "definitely want to see a dentist" is shown in table H.

Table H. Percent distribution of youths aged 12-17 years by perceived need for a dentist for selected dental conditions: United States, 1966-70

Condition or symptom	Total	Definitely want to see dentist	Probably want to see dentist	Not want to see dentist
	Percent distribution			
Hole or cavity in a tooth—even though it did not hurt	100.0	64.7	29.2	6.1
Crooked teeth	100.0	52.8	38.0	9.2
A toothache	100.0	52.7	37.8	9.6
Sores in the mouth	100.0	47.6	33.8	18.5
Sore gums	100.0	39.0	44.2	16.9
Stains on teeth that would not brush off	100.0	33.6	50.6	15.8
Bad breath	100.0	8.2	18.3	73.6

The condition regarded by the largest number of boys and girls as definitely requiring a dentist's attention was hole or cavity in a tooth—even though it did not hurt. About 65 percent of the youths indicated they would definitely want to see a dentist if they had that condition. Crooked teeth and toothache were next most serious, according to the youths, with about 53 percent definitely wanting to see a dentist for either condition. About 48 percent of the youths would definitely want to see a dentist if they had sores in their mouths. The remaining conditions were ranked as follows: sore gums (39 percent), stains on the teeth that would not brush off (34 percent), and bad breath (8 percent). Although girls were more likely than boys to definitely want to see a dentist for each of the seven conditions, the only sex differences in perceived seriousness large enough to be statistically significant were for the symptom sore gums and the condition sores in the mouth.

The average number of dental conditions for which youths would definitely want to see a dentist was about three (table 43). About 3 percent of the youths would definitely want to see a dentist for all seven dental conditions, while 12 percent did not feel they would definitely want to see a dentist for any one of them.

Aspects of Social Behavior

Running away from home.—About one of every 10 youths 12-17 years of age in the noninstitutionalized population of the United States reported having run away from home (table 47). About 7 percent reported they had run away once, and an additional 3 percent indicated they had run away more than once. Running away from home was defined as "leaving or staying away on purpose, knowing you would be missed, intending to stay away from home, at least for some time." Differences in responses between boys and girls were small enough to be explained by sampling variability. Proportionately more older than younger youths reported they had ever run away from home. Youths who indicated they had run away at least once also reported their age when they first ran away (table 48).

Contacts with police.—Almost one youth in five (18.8 percent) reported having had, at least once, some *contact* with "police, sheriff, or juvenile officers for something you did or they thought you did" (table 49). About 13 percent had had one such contact, 3 percent two contacts, and 3 percent more than two contacts. Boys reported this type of experience with much greater fre-

quency than girls, 29.3 percent versus 8.1 percent. The likelihood of such contacts increased with age, particularly among boys. The percentage of boys who had had at least one contact with the police or other authorities increased from 16 percent of 12-year-olds to about 44 percent of 17-year-olds. In interpreting this information it must be recalled that the present survey was limited to the noninstitutionalized population of youths; thus no youths in jails or reform schools during the time of the survey would be included in the results.

The reasons for the police-youth contacts were of the types that one would expect to occur during adolescence. They included questionings about thefts (mostly shoplifting), moving traffic violations, physical aggression toward others (mostly fighting), vandalism, trespassing, school-related problems (truancy, vandalism, misbehavior, and trespassing), contacts concerning drinking alcoholic beverages or possessing illegal drugs, public safety contacts (playing in streets, using fireworks, disorderly behavior), contacts concerning curfew, loitering, or vagrancy laws, running away from home, and a host of other minor acts, questionings, or warnings which defy classification. It should be emphasized that these were the reasons given by the youths for the police contacts and that the contacts in most cases did not result in formal charges or arrests. Official statistics on arrests are published annually by the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation in *Uniform Crime Reports for the United States*.[32]

The youths who indicated some police contact were asked whether they had been arrested. About 15 percent of them said they had (table 49), a figure representing about 3 percent of all noninstitutionalized youths aged 12-17. About 4 percent did not know whether or not they had been arrested, and the vast majority, over 80 percent, reported they had not been arrested. It is emphasized that these figures cannot be interpreted as true arrest rates. Many youths may have confused questioning by police or going to a police station with being arrested and did not know whether they had in fact been charged or arrested. The results simply illustrate how the youths themselves perceived and recalled the police contacts. Boys indicating contacts with police were more likely to report arrests than girls who reported police contacts (17.0 percent versus 6.4 percent), and older boys who reported police contacts were more likely than younger ones to report arrests.

Dating behavior.—An estimated 48 percent of the youths had had at least one date (table 50), which was defined as "a boy and a girl going out together, whether or not anyone else was along." Dating patterns differed for boys and for girls, and, as expected, more older youths dated than younger ones. For boys, having had a date increased from 10 percent among the 12-year-olds to 85 percent among the 17-year-olds; for girls, the percentage rose from 7 percent of the 12-year-olds to 93 percent of the 17-year-olds. Between ages 12 and 14, the percentages of boys and girls who dated were similar, but from age 15 through 17, girls were more likely than boys to have dated. The typical 17-year-old reported having had the first date when he or she was about 16 years old.

SUMMARY

This report has presented information on selected health characteristics, attitudes, and behavior of youths in the age range 12-17 years. The estimates are based on answers to questionnaires completed by the youths themselves in the national Health Examination Survey of 1966-70. In the survey, a national probability sample of noninstitutionalized youths 12-17 years of age was selected and examined. The response rate was 90 percent. Because of the sample design, adjustment for nonresponse, and statistical weighting procedures employed, survey results may be considered representative of the approximately 23 million noninstitutionalized youths in this age range at the time of the survey with respect to age, sex, race, region, and other demographic and socioeconomic characteristics.

The report is descriptive in nature and discusses the association of sex and age with responses to a wide range of questions concerning adolescent health and development. The areas represented include general health status; patterns of cigarette smoking; attitudes toward physical development and appearance; behavior related to sleep; family relationships and the development

of personal independence; use of leisure time; school, work, and educational goals; and values. Also included are some aspects of social behavior, perception of the need for medical or dental care, and other health characteristics. A comparison of present survey findings is made, where possible, with findings from previous studies. Age trends and sex differences for many of the self-reported health characteristics, attitudes, and behavioral patterns were evident.

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Table 1. Percent distribution of youths by self-appraised health status, and percent of youths reporting a health problem they would like to discuss with a doctor, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Self-appraised health status						Percent of youths reporting a health problem
	Total	Excellent	Very good	Good	Fair	Poor	
	Percent distribution						
Both sexes							
12-17 years	100.0	26.6	33.2	35.7	4.2	0.4	10.3
12 years	100.0	28.6	32.3	35.8	2.9	0.3	7.1
13 years	100.0	27.3	33.1	35.4	3.9	0.2	9.0
14 years	100.0	24.4	33.6	37.4	4.0	0.6	11.4
15 years	100.0	27.0	31.6	36.2	4.9	0.3	12.1
16 years	100.0	25.6	36.1	33.9	4.3	0.1	10.6
17 years	100.0	26.2	32.9	35.3	4.9	0.7	12.9
Boys							
12-17 years	100.0	28.6	33.5	34.1	3.4	0.4	10.1
12 years	100.0	28.8	32.1	36.0	2.7	0.4	8.5
13 years	100.0	29.6	32.7	34.5	3.1	0.2	8.5
14 years	100.0	26.9	34.9	33.1	4.5	0.6	10.3
15 years	100.0	29.4	32.1	35.6	2.5	0.3	11.3
16 years	100.0	28.8	36.8	31.6	2.7	0.2	10.1
17 years	100.0	28.0	32.6	33.4	5.4	0.6	12.2
Girls							
12-17 years	100.0	24.5	33.0	37.3	4.9	0.4	10.5
12 years	100.0	28.5	32.5	35.7	3.2	0.3	6.0
13 years	100.0	25.0	33.5	36.5	4.8	0.2	7.8
14 years	100.0	21.8	32.3	41.8	3.6	0.5	13.0
15 years	100.0	24.6	31.0	36.8	7.4	0.2	12.9
16 years	100.0	22.4	35.3	36.3	6.1	0.0	11.0
17 years	100.0	24.4	33.2	37.1	4.5	0.9	13.7
	Standard error						
Both sexes 12-17 years	...	0.96	0.76	1.01	0.21	0.06	0.45
Boys 12-17 years	...	1.01	0.85	1.24	0.26	0.09	0.76
Girls 12-17 years	...	1.02	0.89	1.14	0.29	0.10	0.53

Table 2. Percent distribution of youths by frequency of anxiety feelings, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Frequency of anxiety feelings				
	Total	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
	Percent distribution				
Both sexes					
12-17 years	100.0	7.6	36.1	36.0	20.3
12 years	100.0	4.7	30.6	33.8	30.9
13 years	100.0	6.0	36.1	33.2	24.7
14 years	100.0	7.0	33.8	38.5	20.7
15 years	100.0	7.0	36.2	37.4	19.4
16 years	100.0	9.2	38.6	38.3	13.9
17 years	100.0	12.4	42.0	35.0	10.5
Boys					
12-17 years	100.0	6.3	32.9	37.1	23.7
12 years	100.0	4.5	28.8	35.5	31.2
13 years	100.0	5.9	32.6	34.0	27.5
14 years	100.0	5.6	32.1	37.4	24.9
15 years	100.0	5.8	31.4	38.5	24.3
16 years	100.0	5.9	35.3	40.0	18.7
17 years	100.0	10.8	37.9	37.2	14.1
Girls					
12-17 years	100.0	8.9	39.3	34.9	16.8
12 years	100.0	5.0	32.5	32.0	30.6
13 years	100.0	6.2	39.7	32.4	21.7
14 years	100.0	8.5	35.5	39.6	16.4
15 years	100.0	8.3	41.0	36.2	14.4
16 years	100.0	12.5	42.0	36.5	9.0
17 years	100.0	14.0	46.2	32.8	7.0
	Standard error				
Both sexes 12-17 years	...	0.30	0.65	0.53	0.61
Boys 12-17 years	...	0.34	0.78	0.71	0.64
Girls 12-17 years	...	0.60	0.93	0.77	0.84

Table 3. Percent distributions of youths by current smoker status and amount of smoking among regular smokers, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Total	Current smoker status				All regular smokers	Amount of daily smoking			
		Never smoked	Don't smoke at all now	Smoke only pipe or cigars	Smoke cigarettes regularly		Less than 1/2 pack	1/2 pack but less than 1 pack	1 pack but less than 2 packs	2 packs or more
	Percent distributions									
Both sexes										
12-17 years---	100.0	54.3	31.1	0.4	14.3	100.0	61.4	24.9	12.8	1.0
12 years----------	100.0	77.5	19.0	0.1	3.4	100.0	93.7	1.5	4.8	-
13 years----------	100.0	69.1	25.9	-	5.1	100.0	91.2	7.4	-	1.3
14 years----------	100.0	54.9	34.1	0.2	10.8	100.0	76.6	17.9	5.5	-
15 years----------	100.0	45.5	36.6	0.2	17.7	100.0	64.9	18.1	15.6	1.4
16 years----------	100.0	41.5	36.7	0.3	21.4	100.0	56.2	30.5	12.9	0.4
17 years----------	100.0	33.2	35.4	1.5	29.9	100.0	47.2	34.1	17.2	1.5
Boys										
12-17 years---	100.0	49.0	32.6	0.7	17.6	100.0	59.0	25.7	14.4	0.8
12 years----------	100.0	71.6	23.1	0.3	5.0	100.0	93.7	-	6.3	-
13 years----------	100.0	62.8	30.7	-	6.5	100.0	93.0	7.0	-	-
14 years----------	100.0	51.9	35.2	0.4	12.5	100.0	77.0	18.6	4.4	-
15 years----------	100.0	41.9	34.9	0.4	22.8	100.0	59.1	20.4	19.5	1.0
16 years----------	100.0	34.5	40.2	0.7	24.7	100.0	53.6	31.2	15.2	-
17 years----------	100.0	27.1	32.3	2.9	34.8	100.0	44.3	35.5	18.4	1.8
Girls										
12-17 years---	100.0	59.7	29.5	-	10.9	100.0	65.3	23.5	10.0	1.2
12 years----------	100.0	83.5	14.8	-	1.6	100.0	*	*	*	*
13 years----------	100.0	75.4	20.9	-	3.6	100.0	88.1	8.2	-	3.7
14 years----------	100.0	58.0	32.9	-	9.0	100.0	76.0	17.0	7.0	-
15 years----------	100.0	49.2	38.2	-	12.6	100.0	75.5	13.8	8.6	2.2
16 years----------	100.0	48.7	33.2	-	18.1	100.0	59.8	29.6	9.6	1.0
17 years----------	100.0	39.4	38.6	-	21.9	100.0	52.3	31.6	15.1	1.0
	Standard error									
Both sexes 12-17 years--	...	1.21	1.04	0.10	0.48	...	2.00	1.44	1.64	0.40
Boys 12-17 years----------	...	1.16	0.93	0.19	0.78	...	2.23	1.84	2.24	0.35
Girls 12-17 years----------	...	1.72	1.36	-	0.63	...	3.32	2.44	1.73	0.63

Table 4. Percent distribution of 17-year-old youths who had ever tried smoking by age at which they first tried smoking, and median age at which they first tried smoking, according to current smoker status and sex: United States, 1966-70

Current smoker status and sex	Age at which 17-year-old youths first tried smoking												
	All ages	7 years and under	8 years	9 years	10 years	11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	16 years	17 years	Median age in years
	Percent distribution												
Total													
Both sexes	100.0	5.9	3.4	5.4	7.1	3.6	12.8	12.0	13.9	16.0	15.2	4.6	14.5
Boys	100.0	6.9	4.7	7.5	8.6	4.3	14.4	11.6	13.5	14.6	9.6	4.1	13.8
Girls	100.0	4.6	1.9	2.8	5.3	2.6	10.7	12.5	14.5	17.8	22.1	5.3	15.2
Tried smoking but not regular smoker													
Both sexes	100.0	6.3	3.4	6.0	7.7	4.2	12.8	11.1	11.2	15.9	16.7	4.8	14.3
Boys	100.0	6.8	6.0	8.0	10.7	6.0	15.6	10.1	11.7	11.8	10.3	3.7	13.3
Girls	100.0	5.9	1.1	4.3	5.8	2.7	10.4	11.9	10.7	19.3	22.1	5.8	15.2
Regular smoker													
Both sexes	100.0	6.4	4.5	4.3	8.0	4.3	14.5	11.2	17.7	14.6	11.5	3.2	13.2
Boys	100.0	8.2	4.9	6.6	8.7	4.7	15.8	11.5	14.8	14.3	7.6	2.9	12.6
Girls	100.0	3.2	3.6	-	6.8	3.5	12.1	10.6	23.0	15.0	18.5	3.7	13.9

Table 5. Percent distribution and standard errors of 17-year-old regular smokers by age at which they began smoking regularly, and median age at which they began smoking regularly, according to sex: United States, 1966-70

Sex	Age at which 17-year-old smokers began smoking regularly									
	Total	10 years and under	11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	16 years	17 years	Median age in years
	Percent distribution									
Both sexes	100.0	2.0	3.0	2.5	7.6	14.0	16.3	31.8	22.8	15.7
Boys	100.0	3.0	4.1	3.3	7.7	13.8	17.2	29.9	21.0	15.5
Girls	100.0	-	1.0	1.1	7.5	14.5	14.6	35.3	25.9	15.8
	Standard error									
Both sexes	...	1.06	1.15	0.88	1.83	2.67	2.66	3.49	3.08	---
Boys	...	2.25	1.70	1.29	2.05	3.57	2.81	4.12	3.51	---
Girls	...	1.26	0.97	1.10	3.11	3.74	3.87	5.32	5.02	---

Table 6. Percent distributions of youths by their attitudes toward their weight, body build, and height, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Self-perceived weight			Self-perceived body build			Preferred weight			Preferred height		
	Under-weight	Right weight	Over-weight	Thinner than most	Same as most	Heavier than most	Thinner	About the same	Heavier	Shorter	About the same	Taller
	Percent distributions											
Both sexes												
12-17 years	13.5	66.4	20.1	16.3	64.9	18.8	32.9	48.0	19.1	7.3	57.8	34.9
12 years	12.1	71.1	16.7	14.8	70.8	14.5	27.8	56.9	15.3	6.4	55.4	38.2
13 years	11.8	68.8	19.4	15.8	65.1	19.1	32.2	50.6	17.3	8.3	56.3	35.4
14 years	13.9	65.8	20.3	15.5	63.7	20.8	31.8	49.8	18.4	6.8	57.7	35.5
15 years	13.1	65.2	21.7	16.8	63.3	19.9	34.6	46.1	19.4	7.8	56.5	35.7
16 years	14.2	64.8	20.9	16.9	63.6	19.4	34.8	42.5	22.6	7.1	59.8	33.1
17 years	16.3	61.8	21.8	18.5	62.3	19.3	37.3	40.6	22.1	7.4	61.9	30.7
Boys												
12-17 years	17.9	69.7	12.4	18.6	65.9	15.5	17.9	55.0	27.1	1.9	48.2	49.8
12 years	15.7	72.4	11.9	16.0	71.7	12.3	20.6	59.0	20.4	1.6	43.9	54.5
13 years	13.4	72.0	14.6	15.9	66.4	17.7	20.6	57.8	21.6	2.5	47.6	49.8
14 years	18.0	70.6	11.4	18.4	64.2	17.4	16.2	59.0	24.8	1.9	48.6	49.5
15 years	17.9	69.6	12.5	19.9	63.9	16.2	16.5	54.3	29.2	1.9	47.2	50.9
16 years	20.1	68.6	11.2	20.6	65.9	13.5	15.5	50.6	33.9	1.5	49.4	49.1
17 years	23.0	64.2	12.8	21.5	62.7	15.7	17.5	48.0	34.6	2.0	53.4	44.6
Girls												
12-17 years	9.0	63.0	28.0	14.0	63.9	22.2	48.4	40.8	10.8	12.8	67.7	19.5
12 years	8.4	69.8	21.7	13.4	69.9	16.7	35.2	54.6	10.1	11.3	67.4	21.3
13 years	10.2	65.6	24.3	15.6	63.8	20.6	44.1	43.1	12.8	14.3	65.2	20.6
14 years	9.6	60.8	29.6	12.5	63.2	24.2	47.8	40.4	11.8	11.8	67.0	21.2
15 years	8.2	60.6	31.2	13.6	62.7	23.7	53.2	37.5	9.3	13.8	66.2	20.0
16 years	8.2	61.0	30.8	13.2	61.3	25.5	54.7	34.3	11.1	12.9	70.4	16.7
17 years	9.6	59.4	30.9	15.4	61.8	22.8	57.3	33.1	9.6	12.9	70.4	16.7
	Standard error											
Both sexes 12-17 years	0.63	0.83	0.45	0.53	0.82	0.50	0.43	0.66	0.51	0.38	0.74	0.68
Boys 12-17 years	0.78	1.03	0.67	0.68	1.23	0.75	0.77	0.78	0.55	0.56	2.03	2.01
Girls 12-17 years	0.67	0.98	0.85	0.67	0.88	0.75	1.01	1.09	0.67	1.48	2.14	1.85

Table 7. Percent distributions of youths by preferred body build, according to perceived body build, sex, and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Self-perceived body build											
	Thinner than most				Same as most				Heavier than most			
	Total	Would like to be thinner	Would like to be about the same	Would like to be heavier	Total	Would like to be thinner	Would like to be about the same	Would like to be heavier	Total	Would like to be thinner	Would like to be about the same	Would like to be heavier
	Percent distributions											
Both sexes												
12-17 years--	100.0	4.1	29.5	66.4	100.0	25.7	62.3	12.1	100.0	83.1	14.7	2.2
12 years----------	100.0	2.2	38.3	59.5	100.0	21.3	69.5	9.2	100.0	84.9	14.7	0.4
13 years----------	100.0	4.5	29.6	65.9	100.0	24.6	66.2	9.3	100.0	81.2	14.3	4.4
14 years----------	100.0	2.6	26.1	71.3	100.0	22.9	66.8	10.3	100.0	80.9	15.3	3.8
15 years----------	100.0	6.5	30.5	63.0	100.0	26.7	59.6	13.7	100.0	83.1	16.0	0.8
16 years----------	100.0	4.6	26.1	69.2	100.0	27.7	55.9	16.4	100.0	84.7	13.1	2.2
17 years----------	100.0	4.0	26.7	69.2	100.0	32.5	52.8	14.7	100.0	84.6	14.4	1.0
Boys												
12-17 years--	100.0	1.4	24.5	74.1	100.0	10.7	70.2	19.2	100.0	68.3	26.9	4.8
12 years----------	100.0	1.5	25.6	72.9	100.0	14.4	73.5	12.0	100.0	79.9	19.1	1.0
13 years----------	100.0	4.6	27.0	68.4	100.0	11.5	74.5	13.9	100.0	69.2	22.1	8.7
14 years----------	100.0	-	25.2	74.8	100.0	8.2	77.0	14.8	100.0	63.2	27.9	9.0
15 years----------	100.0	0.8	28.6	70.6	100.0	8.4	68.3	23.2	100.0	67.2	30.8	2.0
16 years----------	100.0	0.7	23.9	75.4	100.0	10.2	63.0	26.8	100.0	64.1	30.8	5.1
17 years----------	100.0	1.0	17.6	81.4	100.0	10.4	62.7	26.9	100.0	68.1	30.9	1.0
Girls												
12-17 years--	100.0	7.9	36.2	55.9	100.0	41.6	53.9	4.6	100.0	93.7	6.0	0.4
12 years----------	100.0	3.1	53.9	43.0	100.0	28.6	65.1	6.3	100.0	88.7	11.3	-
13 years----------	100.0	4.4	32.3	63.3	100.0	38.5	57.3	4.3	100.0	91.8	7.5	0.7
14 years----------	100.0	6.4	27.4	66.2	100.0	38.4	56.1	5.5	100.0	94.0	6.0	-
15 years----------	100.0	15.1	33.3	51.6	100.0	45.9	50.5	3.6	100.0	94.3	5.7	-
16 years----------	100.0	10.8	29.8	59.4	100.0	46.9	48.0	5.1	100.0	95.8	3.6	0.6
17 years----------	100.0	8.3	39.6	52.1	100.0	55.2	42.7	2.1	100.0	96.1	3.0	1.0
	Standard error											
Both sexes 12-17 years-	...	0.57	1.31	1.44	...	0.75	0.86	0.47	...	1.34	1.02	0.53
Boys 12-17 years----------	...	0.47	2.09	2.03	...	0.71	1.00	0.67	...	2.65	2.05	1.15
Girls 12-17 years----------	...	1.38	2.97	2.99	...	1.39	1.35	0.42	...	1.14	1.10	0.21

Table 8. Percent of youths reporting acne, and percent distributions of youths with acne by whether they use any treatment for it, whether they have seen a doctor about it, and how much it bothers them, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Percent reporting acne	Youths with acne							
		Treatment used for acne?		Doctor seen about acne?		Concern over acne			
		Yes	No	Yes	No	Quite a lot	Some but not too much	Very little	None
		Percent distributions							
Both sexes									
12-17 years	49.2	58.3	41.7	11.4	88.6	13.7	35.0	35.5	15.8
12 years	29.4	57.0	43.0	5.2	94.8	10.1	30.4	39.9	19.6
13 years	41.2	57.7	42.3	8.0	92.0	11.7	32.3	36.7	19.3
14 years	51.0	55.6	44.4	8.5	91.5	14.9	34.7	32.8	17.5
15 years	55.3	62.7	37.3	13.3	86.7	17.7	35.8	31.9	14.6
16 years	60.6	59.7	40.3	12.7	87.3	11.8	38.0	36.8	13.4
17 years	60.3	56.3	43.7	17.1	82.9	13.9	36.0	36.8	13.3
Boys									
12-17 years	49.8	54.8	45.2	10.6	89.4	10.0	32.9	38.6	18.5
12 years	20.9	44.8	55.2	6.5	93.5	6.1	21.9	42.0	29.9
13 years	35.6	55.1	44.9	7.7	92.3	8.3	30.3	39.2	22.2
14 years	51.7	53.0	47.0	7.1	92.9	10.2	37.4	30.3	22.0
15 years	57.5	59.3	40.5	10.4	89.6	13.0	32.8	37.3	16.9
16 years	69.9	57.5	42.5	10.8	89.2	9.7	35.3	40.6	14.4
17 years	67.7	52.4	47.6	16.5	83.5	9.8	32.0	43.0	15.1
Girls									
12-17 years	48.6	62.0	38.0	12.3	87.7	17.5	37.2	32.3	13.0
12 years	38.2	63.9	36.1	4.4	95.6	12.4	35.2	38.7	13.8
13 years	46.9	59.8	40.2	8.3	91.7	14.5	33.8	34.8	17.0
14 years	50.3	58.3	41.7	9.9	90.1	19.9	31.8	35.5	12.8
15 years	53.1	66.2	33.8	16.4	83.6	22.9	39.2	25.9	11.9
16 years	51.0	62.6	37.4	15.4	84.6	14.9	41.8	31.4	11.9
17 years	52.9	61.4	38.6	17.7	82.3	19.1	41.0	28.8	11.0
		Standard error							
Both sexes 12-17 years	0.86	1.38	1.38	0.61	0.61	0.66	0.97	0.97	0.61
Boys 12-17 years	1.02	1.80	1.80	0.78	0.78	0.62	1.35	1.12	0.94
Girls 12-17 years	1.07	1.81	1.81	1.09	1.09	1.23	1.38	1.44	0.81

Table 9. Percent distribution of youths reporting acne by age at which acne began, and median age at which acne began, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Age at which acne began										
	Total	9 years and under	10 years	11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	16 years	17 years	Median age in years
	Percent distribution										
Both sexes											
12-17 years---	100.0	1.8	3.8	10.9	23.8	28.4	19.6	8.6	2.6	0.5	13.8
12 years----------	100.0	4.2	15.5	46.8	33.5	...	...	...	...	...	12.2
13 years----------	100.0	1.5	5.3	17.9	50.1	25.2	...	...	...	...	13.0
14 years----------	100.0	1.9	2.5	7.2	25.0	50.1	13.2	...	...	...	13.8
15 years----------	100.0	1.3	2.0	3.7	17.8	33.0	34.4	8.0	...	...	14.2
16 years----------	100.0	1.7	1.2	2.5	15.3	27.1	31.1	18.1	2.9	...	14.6
17 years----------	100.0	1.3	1.7	4.5	11.6	23.5	25.4	18.7	10.7	2.7	14.8
Boys											
12-17 years---	100.0	1.4	2.3	5.9	19.8	29.3	25.2	12.0	3.3	0.7	14.2
12 years----------	100.0	6.8	12.2	33.9	47.1	...	...	...	...	...	12.4
13 years----------	100.0	0.3	3.1	11.9	49.7	35.0	...	...	...	...	13.2
14 years----------	100.0	1.3	2.0	4.3	21.3	53.6	17.5	...	...	...	13.9
15 years----------	100.0	0.6	1.1	1.3	12.7	34.2	39.8	10.2	...	...	14.5
16 years----------	100.0	1.3	0.9	0.7	10.5	21.3	39.4	22.7	3.1	...	14.9
17 years----------	100.0	1.2	0.9	3.4	6.9	19.8	27.3	23.7	13.0	3.7	15.2
Girls											
12-17 years---	100.0	2.2	5.4	16.1	28.1	27.5	13.7	5.0	1.8	0.2	13.4
12 years----------	100.0	2.7	17.4	54.0	25.9	...	...	...	...	...	12.1
13 years----------	100.0	2.4	7.0	22.6	50.4	17.7	...	...	...	...	12.8
14 years----------	100.0	2.5	2.9	10.3	28.9	46.4	9.0	...	...	...	13.6
15 years----------	100.0	2.0	3.1	6.3	23.5	31.6	28.3	5.2	...	...	14.0
16 years----------	100.0	2.3	1.6	5.1	22.2	35.5	19.0	11.6	2.7	...	14.0
17 years----------	100.0	1.4	2.7	5.8	17.4	28.1	23.0	12.3	7.8	1.5	14.3
	Standard error										
Both sexes 12-17 years--	...	0.36	0.42	0.61	0.61	0.83	0.85	0.55	0.28	0.14	---
Boys 12-17 years--	...	0.36	0.41	0.60	0.88	1.03	1.13	0.98	0.49	0.20	---
Girls 12-17 years-	...	0.55	0.63	0.90	1.17	1.29	0.87	0.45	0.40	0.14	---

Table 10. Percent distribution of youths by amount of food eaten, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Amount of food eaten			
	Total	Too much	About right	Too little
	Percent distribution			
Both sexes				
12-17 years	100.0	18.7	74.0	7.3
12 years	100.0	18.1	74.1	7.9
13 years	100.0	19.0	74.6	6.5
14 years	100.0	19.4	74.7	6.0
15 years	100.0	19.6	71.6	8.8
16 years	100.0	17.6	76.0	6.4
17 years	100.0	18.5	72.9	8.6
Boys				
12-17 years	100.0	14.4	78.1	7.5
12 years	100.0	15.4	76.2	8.4
13 years	100.0	15.6	77.4	6.9
14 years	100.0	14.9	78.3	6.8
15 years	100.0	15.3	76.1	8.6
16 years	100.0	10.6	82.9	6.5
17 years	100.0	14.4	77.8	7.9
Girls				
12-17 years	100.0	23.1	69.8	7.2
12 years	100.0	20.8	71.9	7.3
13 years	100.0	22.4	71.6	6.0
14 years	100.0	24.0	70.9	5.1
15 years	100.0	24.0	67.0	9.0
16 years	100.0	24.6	69.0	6.4
17 years	100.0	22.7	67.9	9.4
	Standard error			
Both sexes 12-17 years	...	0.47	0.67	0.38
Boys 12-17 years	...	0.70	0.98	0.51
Girls 12-17 years	...	0.69	0.91	0.59

Table 11. Percent distributions of youths in selected age groups by amount of food eaten, according to sex and self-perceived weight: United States, 1966-70

Selected age group and self-perceived weight	Both sexes				Boys				Girls			
	Total	Eat too much	Eat right amount	Eat too little	Total	Eat too much	Eat right amount	Eat too little	Total	Eat too much	Eat right amount	Eat too little
	Percent distributions											
12-17 years												
All weights--	100.0	18.7	74.0	7.3	100.0	14.4	78.1	7.5	100.0	23.1	69.8	7.1
Underweight--------	100.0	9.8	62.7	27.5	100.0	10.3	64.8	24.9	100.0	8.9	58.4	32.7
Right weight-------	100.0	9.7	85.4	4.9	100.0	8.7	87.0	4.3	100.0	10.8	83.6	5.6
Overweight---------	100.0	54.4	43.8	1.8	100.0	52.3	46.8	0.9	100.0	55.4	42.4	2.2
12 years												
All weights--	100.0	18.1	74.0	7.9	100.0	15.4	76.2	8.4	100.0	20.8	71.9	7.3
Underweight--------	100.0	8.2	58.3	33.5	100.0	7.6	62.7	29.7	100.0	9.2	49.9	40.8
Right weight-------	100.0	11.1	84.2	4.7	100.0	10.2	85.2	4.6	100.0	12.0	83.1	4.9
Overweight---------	100.0	54.8	42.4	2.9	100.0	56.6	39.4	4.0	100.0	53.7	44.1	2.2
17 years												
All weights--	100.0	18.5	72.9	8.6	100.0	14.4	77.8	7.9	100.0	22.7	67.9	9.4
Underweight--------	100.0	4.5	69.8	25.7	100.0	4.9	74.3	20.8	100.0	3.7	58.9	37.4
Right weight-------	100.0	10.5	82.7	6.8	100.0	11.1	84.1	4.8	100.0	9.9	81.2	8.9
Overweight---------	100.0	51.5	47.3	1.2	100.0	47.7	52.3	-	100.0	53.1	45.2	1.7

Table 12. Percent distributions of youths by frequency of insomnia and nightmares and whether they sleepwalked, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Trouble getting to sleep or staying asleep			Nightmares			Sleepwalking in last year or so	
	Very often	Only from time to time	Never	Quite frequently	Only from time to time	Never	Yes	No
	Percent distributions							
Both sexes								
12-17 years	6.6	43.6	49.7	2.8	42.7	54.5	5.2	94.8
12 years	6.8	38.3	54.9	3.3	46.1	50.6	6.1	93.9
13 years	5.8	41.7	52.5	2.8	45.2	52.0	6.1	93.9
14 years	5.5	43.0	51.5	2.5	40.7	56.8	6.0	94.0
15 years	6.4	41.3	52.3	3.2	39.1	57.7	4.6	95.4
16 years	7.7	48.8	43.5	2.0	43.5	54.5	4.2	95.8
17 years	7.6	49.9	42.5	2.8	41.5	55.7	3.8	96.2
Boys								
12-17 years	6.3	40.2	53.5	2.6	38.7	58.7	6.3	93.7
12 years	6.9	38.2	54.9	3.5	44.4	52.1	7.3	92.7
13 years	6.0	40.6	53.4	2.4	45.3	52.3	7.0	93.0
14 years	4.9	37.7	57.4	2.5	35.8	61.6	6.4	93.6
15 years	6.3	37.9	55.8	2.7	33.1	64.2	5.7	94.3
16 years	7.3	43.2	49.5	1.7	37.2	61.1	5.7	94.3
17 years	6.2	44.2	49.6	2.7	35.5	61.8	5.3	94.7
Girls								
12-17 years	7.0	47.2	45.8	3.0	46.9	50.1	4.0	96.0
12 years	6.7	38.4	54.9	3.1	47.9	49.0	4.8	95.2
13 years	5.6	42.7	51.6	3.3	45.1	51.6	5.2	94.8
14 years	6.2	48.4	45.5	2.4	45.8	51.9	5.6	94.4
15 years	6.5	44.9	48.6	3.8	45.2	51.0	3.4	96.6
16 years	8.2	54.5	37.3	2.3	50.0	47.7	2.8	97.2
17 years	9.0	55.6	35.4	2.9	47.5	49.5	2.2	97.8
	Standard error							
Both sexes 12-17 years	0.34	0.60	0.66	0.20	0.89	0.85	0.36	0.36
Boys 12-17 years	0.37	1.00	0.99	0.29	0.98	0.83	0.46	0.46
Girls 12-17 years	0.56	0.76	0.71	0.25	1.39	1.37	0.45	0.45

Table 13. Percent distributions of youths by sleeping arrangements, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Sleeping arrangements			Total sharing room	Share room with:							
	Total	Sleep alone	Share room		Brother(s)	Sister(s)	Father	Mother	Other person(s)	Brother and sister	Mother and father	All other combinations
	Percent distributions											
Both sexes												
12-17 years--	100.0	47.8	52.2	100.0	46.3	41.7	0.7	3.0	4.1	2.1	0.4	1.7
12 years---------	100.0	35.7	64.3	100.0	47.4	41.3	0.8	2.7	2.3	3.0	0.6	1.9
13 years---------	100.0	41.8	58.2	100.0	45.9	42.9	0.3	3.6	2.8	2.1	0.3	2.1
14 years---------	100.0	46.5	53.5	100.0	46.2	42.5	0.9	3.0	2.9	2.0	0.7	1.8
15 years---------	100.0	53.2	46.8	100.0	50.0	40.6	0.4	2.6	2.8	1.9	-	1.7
16 years---------	100.0	53.1	46.9	100.0	47.0	42.3	1.0	2.5	4.2	1.7	0.5	0.8
17 years---------	100.0	58.3	41.7	100.0	40.2	40.4	0.5	3.6	12.4	1.0	-	1.9
Boys												
12-17 years--	100.0	48.5	51.5	100.0	90.1	2.7	1.3	0.7	2.5	1.4	0.3	1.0
12 years---------	100.0	35.6	64.4	100.0	90.3	3.2	1.3	1.0	1.6	1.7	0.2	0.7
13 years---------	100.0	41.9	58.1	100.0	87.9	4.3	0.6	1.1	3.0	1.7	0.5	0.9
14 years---------	100.0	47.6	52.4	100.0	89.8	2.9	1.8	0.4	2.6	1.4	0.6	0.5
15 years---------	100.0	51.7	48.3	100.0	93.8	1.9	0.8	-	1.3	0.7	-	1.5
16 years---------	100.0	54.1	45.9	100.0	90.7	2.7	2.0	0.7	2.2	1.1	0.4	0.2
17 years---------	100.0	62.4	37.6	100.0	87.9	-	1.1	0.8	5.4	1.3	-	3.5
Girls												
12-17 years--	100.0	47.0	53.0	100.0	2.8	80.5	0.1	5.3	5.6	2.7	0.5	2.5
12 years---------	100.0	35.7	64.3	100.0	3.1	80.6	0.3	4.5	3.0	4.3	1.1	3.1
13 years---------	100.0	41.6	58.4	100.0	3.1	82.0	-	6.1	2.6	2.5	0.2	3.5
14 years---------	100.0	45.4	54.6	100.0	3.1	81.5	-	5.5	3.2	2.5	0.8	3.4
15 years---------	100.0	54.7	45.3	100.0	1.9	83.2	-	5.5	4.3	3.2	-	1.9
16 years---------	100.0	52.0	48.0	100.0	4.2	81.1	-	4.4	6.3	2.3	0.7	1.0
17 years---------	100.0	54.1	45.9	100.0	1.0	73.5	-	5.8	18.1	0.9	-	0.7
	Standard error											
Both sexes 12-17 years-	...	1.15	1.15	...	1.08	1.07	0.34	0.44	0.49	0.39	0.30	0.39
Boys 12-17 years----------	...	1.30	1.30	...	0.93	0.56	0.38	0.38	0.48	0.38	0.38	0.38
Girls 12-17 years----------	...	1.46	1.46	...	0.56	1.22	0.38	0.69	0.75	0.56	0.38	0.56

Table 14. Percent distribution of youths by usual bedtime on weeknights, and median bedtime on weeknights, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Usual bedtime									
	Total	Before 8 p.m.	8:00-8:59 p.m.	9:00-9:59 p.m.	10:00-10:59 p.m.	11:00-11:59 p.m.	Midnight or later	No usual time	Don't know	Median bedtime
Both sexes	Percent distribution									
12-17 years	100.0	0.7	5.2	34.5	41.1	15.5	2.8	0.2	0.1	10:14
12 years	100.0	1.0	10.5	60.5	23.9	3.2	0.7	0.2	-	9:38
13 years	100.0	1.0	7.8	49.5	35.3	5.7	0.6	0.1	-	9:50
14 years	100.0	0.5	3.9	35.7	47.3	11.4	1.1	0.1	0.1	10:13
15 years	100.0	0.6	3.4	24.9	49.9	17.8	3.3	0.1	0.3	10:26
16 years	100.0	0.4	2.7	20.0	49.7	23.2	3.9	-	0.1	10:32
17 years	100.0	0.5	2.4	12.5	42.2	34.2	7.7	0.4	-	10:49
Boys										
12-17 years	100.0	0.7	5.9	35.2	40.1	14.9	3.1	0.1	0.0	10:12
12 years	100.0	0.8	11.4	58.7	25.1	3.8	0.3	-	-	9:39
13 years	100.0	1.1	9.1	47.6	37.0	4.5	0.8	-	-	9:50
14 years	100.0	0.8	4.3	40.4	42.4	11.3	0.8	-	0.1	10:06
15 years	100.0	0.9	4.3	26.9	47.0	17.1	3.5	0.2	0.1	10:23
16 years	100.0	0.2	2.8	21.4	48.4	23.2	4.0	-	-	10:32
17 years	100.0	0.4	2.8	12.3	41.8	32.1	10.1	0.4	-	10:50
Girls										
12-17 years	100.0	0.6	4.5	33.8	42.1	16.1	2.5	0.2	0.1	10:16
12 years	100.0	1.2	9.6	62.3	22.7	2.6	1.2	0.4	-	9:38
13 years	100.0	0.9	6.4	51.5	33.6	6.9	0.5	0.3	-	9:50
14 years	100.0	0.2	3.4	30.9	52.2	11.5	1.5	0.3	-	10:18
15 years	100.0	0.3	2.5	22.9	52.1	18.5	3.2	-	0.5	10:28
16 years	100.0	0.5	2.6	18.6	51.0	23.1	3.9	-	0.3	10:33
17 years	100.0	0.7	2.1	12.7	42.6	36.4	5.2	0.4	-	10:49
	Standard error									
Both sexes 12-17 years	...	0.31	0.42	0.74	0.76	0.60	0.37	0.31	0.31	---
Boys 12-17 years	...	0.34	0.56	1.03	1.06	0.79	0.44	0.31	0.30	---
Girls 12-17 years	...	0.34	0.49	1.03	1.07	0.79	0.39	0.31	0.31	---

Table 15. Percent distribution of youths by who makes most of the decisions on choosing the youth's clothes, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Who usually makes decisions on choosing youth's clothes									
	Total	Youth alone	Father	Mother	Both parents	Father and youth	Mother and youth	Youth and both parents	Other person(s)	Nobody
	Percent distribution									
Both sexes										
12-17 years	100.0	33.8	0.6	13.8	3.9	1.3	33.5	11.7	0.9	0.5
12 years	100.0	15.2	1.1	24.9	7.1	0.7	36.9	12.8	0.8	0.5
13 years	100.0	17.7	0.8	20.4	5.8	1.1	37.4	14.6	1.4	0.8
14 years	100.0	31.8	0.9	12.3	3.7	2.8	34.3	13.2	0.5	0.4
15 years	100.0	37.4	0.6	10.8	3.1	1.1	34.4	11.3	0.9	0.5
16 years	100.0	47.4	0.2	7.5	1.6	1.4	31.5	9.2	0.6	0.5
17 years	100.0	57.5	0.1	5.0	1.3	0.9	25.3	8.2	1.1	0.6
Boys										
12-17 years	100.0	35.8	0.8	15.8	5.6	2.0	22.8	16.0	0.8	0.5
12 years	100.0	14.5	1.4	27.2	10.1	1.1	27.7	16.7	1.1	0.2
13 years	100.0	17.0	1.4	24.4	8.3	2.1	24.3	21.2	1.1	0.2
14 years	100.0	32.8	1.0	14.3	5.6	4.2	22.8	18.6	0.3	0.4
15 years	100.0	41.1	0.7	12.3	4.2	1.3	23.5	15.4	0.8	0.5
16 years	100.0	51.2	0.1	8.5	2.3	1.5	22.4	12.8	0.3	0.8
17 years	100.0	62.9	-	5.8	2.1	1.5	14.9	10.7	1.4	0.8
Girls										
12-17 years	100.0	31.8	0.4	11.7	2.1	0.7	44.4	7.2	1.0	0.6
12 years	100.0	16.0	0.8	22.5	4.0	0.3	46.3	8.9	0.5	0.7
13 years	100.0	18.4	0.1	16.2	3.2	0.1	50.9	7.9	1.8	1.4
14 years	100.0	30.7	0.8	10.2	1.8	1.4	46.0	7.7	0.8	0.5
15 years	100.0	33.5	0.4	9.3	2.0	0.9	45.5	7.1	1.0	0.4
16 years	100.0	43.6	0.3	6.5	1.0	1.3	40.8	5.4	1.0	0.2
17 years	100.0	52.0	0.2	4.3	0.6	0.2	35.8	5.7	0.9	0.3
	Standard error									
Both sexes 12-17 years	...	0.78	0.12	0.57	0.18	0.16	0.76	0.41	0.12	0.11
Boys 12-17 years	...	0.78	0.16	0.80	0.31	0.20	0.97	0.77	0.15	0.08
Girls 12-17 years	...	1.12	0.14	0.64	0.18	0.25	1.35	0.48	0.20	0.19

Table 16. Percent distribution of youths by who makes most of the decisions on how the youth should spend his money, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Who usually decides how the youth should spend his money									
	Total	Youth alone	Father	Mother	Both parents	Father and youth	Mother and youth	Youth and both parents	Other person(s)	Nobody
	Percent distribution									
Both sexes										
12-17 years	100.0	52.1	2.3	6.9	8.6	1.7	7.3	17.4	0.7	2.9
12 years	100.0	43.0	4.0	9.9	14.6	1.8	7.4	14.2	0.8	4.2
13 years	100.0	44.5	3.0	8.2	12.1	1.8	6.9	19.1	1.2	3.1
14 years	100.0	52.5	2.2	7.5	8.1	1.7	8.0	17.1	0.5	2.4
15 years	100.0	55.2	1.7	6.7	6.4	1.7	6.5	18.7	0.2	2.8
16 years	100.0	56.1	1.7	5.6	5.6	2.2	7.1	18.4	0.4	2.9
17 years	100.0	63.3	1.1	2.9	3.6	1.0	8.1	16.9	1.3	1.7
Boys										
12-17 years	100.0	53.4	3.2	6.0	8.5	2.7	4.0	18.0	0.8	3.4
12 years	100.0	44.8	5.3	9.0	15.1	2.7	5.3	13.1	0.7	3.9
13 years	100.0	47.6	4.4	6.5	11.3	2.8	3.2	19.6	1.2	3.4
14 years	100.0	52.6	2.6	6.4	8.9	2.9	4.0	18.6	0.8	3.2
15 years	100.0	56.0	2.0	5.8	6.1	2.5	3.3	21.4	0.2	2.8
16 years	100.0	56.2	2.6	4.7	5.1	3.4	3.9	18.3	0.7	5.2
17 years	100.0	65.1	2.0	3.4	3.5	1.7	4.0	17.3	1.2	1.9
Girls										
12-17 years	100.0	50.8	1.4	7.8	8.6	0.7	10.7	16.8	0.7	2.3
12 years	100.0	41.3	2.7	10.8	14.0	1.0	9.6	15.3	1.0	4.4
13 years	100.0	41.2	1.5	10.0	13.0	0.7	10.7	18.8	1.3	2.9
14 years	100.0	52.5	1.8	8.7	7.3	0.4	12.0	15.7	0.2	1.4
15 years	100.0	54.3	1.5	7.8	6.7	1.0	9.7	16.0	0.2	2.9
16 years	100.0	56.0	0.8	6.6	6.1	1.0	10.3	18.5	0.1	0.6
17 years	100.0	61.5	0.2	2.4	3.7	0.4	12.2	16.6	1.4	1.5
	Standard error									
Both sexes 12-17 years	...	0.99	0.23	0.39	0.52	0.13	0.46	0.75	0.10	0.19
Boys 12-17 years	...	1.01	0.30	0.50	0.63	0.28	0.35	1.06	0.15	0.36
Girls 12-17 years	...	0.99	0.23	0.39	0.52	0.13	0.46	0.75	0.10	0.19

Table 17. Percent distribution of youths by who makes most of the decisions on which friends the youth may go out with, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Who usually decides which friends youth may go out with									
	Total	Youth alone	Father	Mother	Both parents	Father and youth	Mother and youth	Youth and both parents	Other person(s)	Nobody
	Percent distribution									
Both sexes										
12-17 years	100.0	46.5	2.1	6.9	12.5	1.0	6.3	17.1	3.3	4.4
12 years	100.0	32.8	3.1	9.2	18.2	0.7	6.8	14.7	4.7	6.8
13 years	100.0	40.9	2.6	7.8	15.3	1.1	6.7	16.2	3.8	5.6
14 years	100.0	45.5	1.5	8.1	14.1	1.4	5.8	17.3	2.5	3.8
15 years	100.0	47.3	1.7	6.0	11.6	1.2	5.7	19.2	3.3	4.1
16 years	100.0	52.5	2.3	5.7	8.0	0.6	6.3	18.2	2.5	3.9
17 years	100.0	58.7	1.3	3.9	6.5	1.2	6.5	17.5	2.7	1.8
Boys										
12-17 years	100.0	53.7	2.7	6.1	11.0	1.1	3.2	13.3	3.9	5.0
12 years	100.0	38.8	4.1	9.6	17.1	1.0	4.1	12.7	5.4	7.1
13 years	100.0	45.9	3.4	6.2	13.4	1.4	3.2	15.8	3.7	7.1
14 years	100.0	53.0	1.7	8.7	12.3	1.5	1.9	12.4	3.3	5.2
15 years	100.0	57.7	1.5	4.7	10.6	1.0	2.3	14.9	4.0	3.4
16 years	100.0	61.9	3.6	3.6	5.1	0.6	3.8	12.5	3.6	5.3
17 years	100.0	67.8	1.6	3.5	6.2	1.4	3.9	11.2	3.0	1.5
Girls										
12-17 years	100.0	39.1	1.5	7.6	14.0	0.9	9.5	21.1	2.7	3.7
12 years	100.0	32.8	2.0	8.9	19.3	0.3	9.4	16.8	4.1	6.4
13 years	100.0	35.9	1.7	9.5	17.3	0.8	10.3	16.7	3.9	4.0
14 years	100.0	37.9	1.3	7.5	15.8	1.3	9.8	22.2	1.7	2.3
15 years	100.0	36.7	1.9	7.3	12.7	1.5	9.2	23.5	2.5	4.7
16 years	100.0	42.8	0.9	7.7	11.0	0.7	8.8	24.2	1.4	2.4
17 years	100.0	49.6	1.0	4.3	6.7	1.1	9.2	23.8	2.3	2.0
	Standard error									
Both sexes 12-17 years	...	0.96	0.19	0.46	0.70	0.13	0.33	0.60	0.26	0.30
Boys 12-17 years	...	1.05	0.24	0.48	0.58	0.19	0.29	0.73	0.32	0.43
Girls 12-17 years	...	1.02	0.31	0.61	0.94	0.18	0.62	0.79	0.30	0.35

Table 18. Percent distribution of youths by who makes most of the decisions on how late the youth may stay out, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Who usually decides how late youth may stay out									
	Total	Youth alone	Father	Mother	Both parents	Father and youth	Mother and youth	Youth and both parents	Other person(s)	Nobody
	Percent distribution									
Both sexes										
12-17 years	100.0	4.6	10.3	17.8	37.8	1.9	5.3	19.8	1.0	1.5
12 years	100.0	1.5	10.4	23.0	46.5	0.6	3.1	11.6	1.1	2.2
13 years	100.0	1.9	11.4	17.2	43.9	2.1	4.0	16.4	1.1	2.0
14 years	100.0	1.6	11.0	19.2	40.5	1.4	5.8	18.9	0.7	0.9
15 years	100.0	4.5	9.8	17.3	35.7	2.1	6.2	22.0	0.7	1.7
16 years	100.0	5.8	9.8	16.8	32.6	2.2	5.9	24.8	0.9	1.2
17 years	100.0	13.4	9.2	12.4	26.0	3.0	7.4	26.4	1.5	0.7
Boys										
12-17 years	100.0	6.7	13.1	17.6	35.7	2.4	3.8	18.0	0.9	1.9
12 years	100.0	2.8	12.7	23.0	44.8	0.6	2.0	10.2	0.8	3.1
13 years	100.0	2.8	15.6	17.6	40.9	2.4	3.4	14.3	1.1	1.8
14 years	100.0	2.0	13.4	21.2	39.1	1.5	4.1	16.8	0.8	1.1
15 years	100.0	6.6	12.0	15.7	34.4	2.6	4.2	20.8	1.1	2.6
16 years	100.0	8.1	12.8	15.8	29.4	3.3	4.7	23.5	0.7	1.8
17 years	100.0	19.5	11.8	11.4	23.7	4.1	4.4	23.5	0.8	0.8
Girls										
12-17 years	100.0	2.5	7.4	17.9	40.0	1.3	7.0	21.6	1.2	1.0
12 years	100.0	0.2	8.0	23.0	48.3	0.6	4.3	13.0	1.5	1.1
13 years	100.0	1.0	7.1	16.8	47.1	1.7	4.6	18.6	1.1	2.1
14 years	100.0	1.2	8.5	17.1	41.9	1.4	7.4	21.0	0.7	0.8
15 years	100.0	2.5	7.6	19.0	37.0	1.5	8.2	23.1	0.4	0.9
16 years	100.0	3.5	6.7	17.9	35.9	1.0	7.2	26.1	1.1	0.6
17 years	100.0	7.1	6.6	13.4	28.2	1.8	10.6	29.4	2.3	0.6
	Standard error									
Both sexes 12-17 years	...	0.26	0.58	0.60	0.67	0.20	0.38	0.83	0.15	0.20
Boys 12-17 years	...	0.46	0.82	0.83	0.84	0.32	0.28	0.93	0.19	0.21
Girls 12-17 years	...	0.25	0.55	0.56	0.91	0.27	0.56	0.91	0.26	0.25

Table 19. Percent of youths receiving an allowance and selected characteristics and attitudes of youths receiving an allowance, by sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Percent receiving an allowance	Percent performing chores for allowance	Percent whose allowance is ever withheld as punishment	Youths receiving an allowance									
				Who decides amount					Who youth thinks should decide amount				
				Total	Father	Mother	Both parents	Someone else	Total	Father	Mother	Both parents	Someone else
				Percent distributions									
Both sexes													
12-17 years--	50.5	70.8	25.4	100.0	19.3	26.6	51.5	2.6	100.0	17.7	21.7	55.8	4.8
12 years---------	58.8	73.6	29.2	100.0	18.2	27.3	53.9	0.6	100.0	17.6	21.4	59.1	1.9
13 years---------	55.0	75.8	30.3	100.0	16.5	26.7	53.9	2.9	100.0	14.5	21.8	59.3	4.3
14 years---------	51.8	73.9	29.8	100.0	20.8	25.3	52.1	1.8	100.0	16.8	21.2	55.1	6.9
15 years---------	49.9	66.9	22.7	100.0	20.1	26.4	50.0	3.5	100.0	19.4	22.2	53.3	5.1
16 years---------	46.2	66.3	21.8	100.0	19.6	28.3	49.7	2.3	100.0	18.7	22.7	54.3	4.3
17 years---------	39.4	69.4	13.0	100.0	21.7	25.6	47.3	5.5	100.0	20.2	20.8	51.1	7.9
Boys													
12-17 years--	47.6	72.2	28.7	100.0	24.0	22.0	51.6	2.4	100.0	23.3	18.1	54.2	4.5
12 years---------	57.2	74.9	30.3	100.0	21.1	23.8	54.6	0.5	100.0	21.9	19.3	57.9	0.9
13 years---------	53.7	76.0	35.5	100.0	19.3	21.2	58.0	1.4	100.0	19.4	17.2	59.7	3.7
14 years---------	49.8	76.8	34.1	100.0	28.0	22.1	47.8	2.0	100.0	22.5	17.9	52.9	6.7
15 years---------	45.2	69.0	28.1	100.0	23.2	20.6	49.9	4.3	100.0	24.9	16.4	52.7	6.0
16 years---------	42.5	69.4	22.5	100.0	25.5	21.0	51.6	1.9	100.0	26.0	18.0	51.8	4.1
17 years---------	35.3	61.4	13.0	100.0	27.5	22.8	43.6	6.1	100.0	28.1	19.7	45.1	7.2
Girls													
12-17 years--	53.4	69.5	22.4	100.0	15.0	30.9	51.4	2.7	100.0	12.5	25.0	57.3	5.2
12 years---------	60.5	72.3	28.1	100.0	15.5	30.6	53.1	0.8	100.0	13.5	23.4	60.3	2.8
13 years---------	56.4	75.7	25.3	100.0	13.8	32.1	49.9	4.2	100.0	9.8	26.3	59.0	5.0
14 years---------	53.9	76.9	25.8	100.0	13.9	28.4	56.2	1.6	100.0	11.5	24.3	57.2	7.0
15 years---------	54.8	65.0	17.4	100.0	15.7	31.3	50.2	2.8	100.0	14.8	27.1	53.9	4.3
16 years---------	50.0	63.5	21.1	100.0	14.5	34.7	48.1	2.7	100.0	12.4	26.7	56.4	4.5
17 years---------	43.5	59.3	12.9	100.0	16.9	27.8	50.3	5.0	100.0	13.7	21.8	56.0	8.5
				Standard error									
Both sexes 12-17 years-	1.10	1.52	1.23	...	1.07	1.08	0.98	0.30	...	0.92	0.92	0.85	0.33
Boys 12-17 years----------	1.43	1.84	1.31	...	1.73	1.37	1.29	0.41	...	1.50	1.11	1.24	0.51
Girls 12-17 years----------	1.02	1.91	2.17	...	0.96	1.39	1.12	0.37	...	0.80	1.29	1.00	0.47

Table 20. Percent distributions of youths by whether they had been away from home for at least 2 months and where they stayed, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Total	Been away once	Been away more than once	Never been away	Where youths who had been away from home stayed							
					Total	Camp	Boarding school	Hospital	With relative	Elsewhere	Two places	Three or more places
Both sexes	Percent distributions											
12-17 years--	100.0	8.3	7.4	84.3	100.0	11.0	3.7	4.2	57.0	11.6	9.6	2.9
12 years	100.0	6.3	4.7	89.0	100.0	12.7	2.0	7.1	62.4	4.7	8.2	2.9
13 years	100.0	6.9	4.2	88.9	100.0	10.0	1.8	4.6	65.4	6.6	10.5	1.1
14 years	100.0	6.9	6.9	86.2	100.0	8.0	1.0	8.5	56.6	11.3	13.3	1.3
15 years	100.0	9.1	6.6	84.3	100.0	13.4	4.5	2.9	60.3	12.1	4.8	2.0
16 years	100.0	8.6	10.9	80.5	100.0	9.6	6.5	1.8	56.6	11.2	11.0	3.3
17 years	100.0	12.6	11.7	75.7	100.0	12.0	4.5	2.5	48.2	18.0	9.6	5.2
Boys												
12-17 years--	100.0	7.7	6.6	85.7	100.0	12.1	4.4	4.8	54.7	11.9	9.5	2.6
12 years	100.0	4.9	4.3	90.8	100.0	14.8	2.9	9.6	61.5	3.4	2.6	5.2
13 years	100.0	4.3	4.4	91.3	100.0	16.5	4.7	5.0	54.3	5.4	11.2	2.9
14 years	100.0	6.6	6.3	87.1	100.0	9.7	1.0	10.0	54.3	8.3	14.0	2.7
15 years	100.0	8.1	5.8	86.1	100.0	9.5	6.9	2.9	61.9	15.1	2.6	1.1
16 years	100.0	9.4	9.6	81.0	100.0	13.2	3.5	2.1	54.9	12.7	12.1	1.5
17 years	100.0	14.0	10.0	76.0	100.0	11.2	6.4	2.9	47.3	18.1	11.2	2.9
Girls												
12-17 years--	100.0	8.9	8.1	83.0	100.0	10.1	3.1	3.6	59.0	11.3	9.7	3.2
12 years	100.0	7.8	5.1	87.2	100.0	11.2	1.4	5.3	63.0	5.7	12.1	1.3
13 years	100.0	9.6	3.9	86.5	100.0	5.8	-	4.4	72.6	7.3	9.9	-
14 years	100.0	7.2	7.6	85.2	100.0	6.6	1.0	7.2	58.7	14.0	12.5	-
15 years	100.0	10.2	7.3	82.5	100.0	16.5	2.6	2.9	58.9	9.8	6.6	2.7
16 years	100.0	7.8	12.2	80.0	100.0	6.1	9.3	1.6	58.2	9.7	10.0	5.1
17 years	100.0	11.2	13.4	75.4	100.0	12.9	2.7	2.0	49.1	17.9	7.9	7.5
	Standard error											
Both sexes 12-17 years-	...	0.36	0.31	0.53	...	1.15	0.74	0.74	1.80	1.20	1.10	0.65
Boys 12-17 years	...	0.36	0.43	0.64	...	1.88	1.12	1.24	2.87	1.88	1.72	0.97
Girls 12-17 years	...	0.62	0.44	0.71	...	2.01	0.82	0.94	2.34	1.49	1.43	0.82

Table 21. Percent distribution of youths by time spent watching television on a usual day, and median time spent watching television per day, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Time spent watching television									
	Total	None	Less than 1/2 hr.	1/2 hr.- less than 1 hr.	1 hr.- less than 2 hr.	2 hr.- less than 3 hr.	3 hr.- less than 4 hr.	4 hr.- less than 5 hr.	5 hr. or more	Median time (in hr. and min.)
	Percent distribution									
Both sexes										
12-17 years--	100.0	5.3	1.1	4.6	18.9	26.7	19.1	11.9	12.2	2h-46m
12 years--------	100.0	2.9	1.4	2.9	17.2	29.1	21.6	12.3	12.7	2h-53m
13 years--------	100.0	3.9	0.7	2.5	15.7	27.4	21.6	13.3	14.8	3h-00m
14 years--------	100.0	3.8	1.3	3.6	19.1	27.0	20.4	12.6	12.3	2h-49m
15 years--------	100.0	4.3	0.9	4.1	20.1	24.6	19.5	12.9	13.5	2h-50m
16 years--------	100.0	8.5	1.6	6.2	20.4	26.7	15.7	11.1	9.8	2h-30m
17 years--------	100.0	9.3	0.9	9.1	21.5	25.1	15.2	9.0	9.9	2h-22m
Boys										
12-17 years--	100.0	4.8	1.3	4.7	17.8	27.5	19.3	12.6	12.0	2h-47m
12 years--------	100.0	3.0	2.1	3.1	18.9	27.4	21.8	11.9	11.9	2h-50m
13 years--------	100.0	4.0	0.7	3.0	15.4	25.3	21.0	14.8	15.8	3h-05m
14 years--------	100.0	3.7	1.1	3.4	17.7	29.3	21.0	12.4	11.5	2h-49m
15 years--------	100.0	3.1	1.4	3.5	18.5	26.5	20.4	14.3	12.2	2h-53m
16 years--------	100.0	7.3	1.7	6.3	17.3	28.4	15.3	12.4	11.2	2h-37m
17 years--------	100.0	8.1	0.7	9.6	19.2	28.1	15.4	9.7	9.1	2h-26m
Girls										
12-17 years--	100.0	5.9	1.0	4.6	20.0	25.9	18.9	11.2	12.5	2h-43m
12 years--------	100.0	2.9	0.7	2.8	15.4	30.8	21.3	12.6	13.5	2h-55m
13 years--------	100.0	3.8	0.8	2.0	16.0	29.7	22.4	11.7	13.8	2h-55m
14 years--------	100.0	3.9	1.5	3.8	20.5	24.7	19.7	12.8	13.2	2h-49m
15 years--------	100.0	5.5	0.4	4.6	21.8	22.7	18.6	11.6	14.8	2h-47m
16 years--------	100.0	9.6	1.4	6.1	23.7	24.8	16.1	9.9	8.4	2h-22m
17 years--------	100.0	10.4	1.1	8.7	23.9	22.0	14.9	8.3	10.7	2h-16m
	Standard error									
Both sexes 12-17 years-	...	0.49	0.19	0.34	0.56	0.75	0.65	0.35	0.56	---
Boys 12-17 years----------	...	0.56	0.28	0.44	0.70	1.10	0.91	0.52	0.91	---
Girls 12-17 years----------	...	0.61	0.16	0.51	0.91	0.69	0.78	0.46	0.70	---

Table 22. Percent distribution of youths by time spent listening to the radio on a usual day, and median time spent listening to the radio per day, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Time spent listening to radio									
	Total	None	Less than 1/2 hr	1/2 hr.- less than 1 hr.	1 hr.- less than 2 hr.	2 hr.- less than 3 hr.	3 hr.- less than 4 hr.	4 hr.- less than 5 hr.	5 hr. or more	Median time (in hr. and min.)
	Percent distribution									
Both sexes										
12-17 years--	100.0	15.3	7.5	16.6	26.0	14.5	7.8	4.7	7.6	1h-24m
12 years--------	100.0	25.6	11.2	18.9	25.2	10.7	4.0	2.3	2.2	0h-51m
13 years--------	100.0	19.0	9.7	18.4	27.0	13.2	5.7	3.6	3.2	1h-06m
14 years--------	100.0	15.5	7.4	16.7	27.4	13.7	8.5	3.0	7.7	1h-23m
15 years--------	100.0	11.6	6.2	14.8	26.2	17.1	8.8	5.3	9.8	1h-40m
16 years--------	100.0	10.3	5.6	17.5	24.9	16.2	9.0	8.2	8.4	1h-40m
17 years--------	100.0	8.1	4.1	13.0	25.3	16.3	11.5	6.4	15.3	1h-59m
Boys										
12-17 years--	100.0	18.1	9.5	19.6	26.2	12.6	5.6	3.4	5.1	1h-06m
12 years--------	100.0	29.1	13.5	17.7	22.9	9.8	2.8	2.3	1.8	0h-43m
13 years--------	100.0	23.0	10.7	22.8	25.7	9.8	3.4	1.9	2.6	0h-51m
14 years--------	100.0	21.1	10.0	19.4	26.6	10.9	6.4	1.8	3.7	0h-59m
15 years--------	100.0	14.3	9.1	20.5	28.4	14.4	4.1	4.1	5.1	1h-13m
16 years--------	100.0	11.9	7.7	21.1	26.9	16.4	6.4	6.4	4.8	1h-21m
17 years--------	100.0	7.0	5.3	15.5	26.7	15.1	11.1	5.9	13.3	1h-50m
Girls										
12-17 years--	100.0	12.4	5.4	13.6	25.8	16.4	10.1	6.1	10.2	1h-43m
12 years--------	100.0	22.0	8.8	20.1	27.5	11.7	5.2	2.2	2.6	0h-59m
13 years--------	100.0	14.9	8.8	13.9	28.4	16.8	8.1	5.3	3.9	1h-26m
14 years--------	100.0	9.7	4.8	13.8	28.2	16.6	10.7	4.1	12.0	1h-46m
15 years--------	100.0	8.8	3.3	9.0	24.0	20.0	13.7	6.6	14.7	2h-15m
16 years--------	100.0	8.7	3.5	13.7	22.7	16.1	11.6	11.7	12.0	2h-05m
17 years--------	100.0	9.1	2.8	10.5	23.8	17.5	12.0	6.9	17.3	2h-13m
	Standard error									
Both sexes 12-17 years-	...	0.55	0.49	0.54	0.64	0.33	0.51	0.44	0.62	---
Boys 12-17 years----------	...	0.79	0.65	0.94	0.78	0.54	0.56	0.46	0.53	---
Girls 12-17 years----------	...	0.68	0.54	0.63	0.85	0.74	0.62	0.63	0.78	---

Table 23. Percent distribution of youths by time spent reading newspapers, comics, or magazines on a usual day, and median time spent reading these materials per day, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Time spent reading newspapers, comics, or magazines									
	Total	None	Less than 1/2 hr.	1/2 hr.- less than 1 hr.	1 hr.- less than 2 hr.	2 hr.- less than 3 hr.	3 hr.- less than 4 hr.	4 hr.- less than 5 hr.	5 hr. or more	Median time (in hr. and min.)
	Percent distribution									
Both sexes										
12-17 years--	100.0	13.8	21.1	34.2	24.4	4.6	1.1	0.5	0.4	0h-43m
12 years--------	100.0	16.3	26.1	30.8	20.7	3.7	1.7	0.3	0.5	0h-37m
13 years--------	100.0	14.1	22.7	34.8	22.0	4.5	0.7	0.7	0.5	0h-41m
14 years--------	100.0	14.6	22.1	34.4	23.0	4.6	0.9	0.1	0.4	0h-42m
15 years--------	100.0	12.9	19.1	35.9	25.3	5.2	0.9	0.6	0.3	0h-45m
16 years--------	100.0	11.1	19.6	36.2	26.6	4.8	0.6	0.6	0.5	0h-46m
17 years--------	100.0	13.4	16.6	33.0	29.5	4.9	1.6	0.7	0.2	0h-48m
Boys										
12-17 years--	100.0	15.0	21.1	33.3	24.2	4.8	0.9	0.3	0.5	0h-42m
12 years--------	100.0	17.5	28.6	27.5	20.6	4.2	1.1	0.1	0.4	0h-34m
13 years--------	100.0	14.8	20.9	35.7	23.2	3.8	0.6	0.4	0.6	0h-42m
14 years--------	100.0	15.8	20.5	34.7	23.3	4.4	0.9	-	0.3	0h-42m
15 years--------	100.0	13.6	20.5	35.2	24.9	4.8	0.3	0.4	0.3	0h-44m
16 years--------	100.0	12.1	18.4	35.4	26.0	6.2	0.7	0.4	0.8	0h-47m
17 years--------	100.0	16.0	16.9	31.2	27.7	5.6	1.6	0.7	0.3	0h-46m
Girls										
12-17 years--	100.0	12.5	21.1	35.1	24.6	4.4	1.3	0.7	0.4	0h-44m
12 years--------	100.0	15.0	23.5	34.3	20.7	3.2	2.2	0.5	0.5	0h-40m
13 years--------	100.0	13.3	24.6	33.8	20.8	5.1	0.9	0.9	0.4	0h-41m
14 years--------	100.0	13.3	23.7	34.1	22.7	4.7	0.8	0.2	0.5	0h-41m
15 years--------	100.0	12.1	17.5	36.6	25.7	5.6	1.5	0.7	0.3	0h-47m
16 years--------	100.0	10.1	20.8	37.0	27.1	3.5	0.4	0.9	0.3	0h-45m
17 years--------	100.0	10.8	16.2	34.8	31.3	4.2	1.7	0.8	0.1	0h-50m
	Standard error									
Both sexes 12-17 years-	...	0.80	0.79	0.88	0.45	0.36	0.11	0.10	0.09	---
Boys 12-17 years----------	...	0.97	0.54	1.17	0.80	0.52	0.15	0.09	0.12	---
Girls 12-17 years----------	...	0.76	1.31	1.01	0.79	0.38	0.16	0.16	0.10	---

Table 24. Percent distribution of youths by time spent reading books on a usual day, and median time spent reading books per day, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Time spent reading books									
	Total	None	Less than 1/2 hr.	1/2 hr.- less than 1 hr.	1 hr.- less than 2 hr.	2 hr.- less than 3 hr.	3 hr.- less than 4 hr.	4 hr.- less than 5 hr.	5 hr. or more	Median time (in hr. and min.)
	Percent distribution									
Both sexes										
12-17 years--	100.0	19.7	7.1	19.9	31.4	13.2	4.6	1.9	2.2	1h-06m
12 years--------	100.0	13.6	9.4	23.5	34.5	11.4	3.9	1.6	2.0	1h-06m
13 years--------	100.0	16.5	7.7	23.0	30.8	13.9	4.6	1.7	1.8	1h-05m
14 years--------	100.0	19.0	7.9	22.6	30.8	11.4	4.3	2.1	1.9	1h-01m
15 years--------	100.0	23.4	6.0	18.5	29.6	13.5	4.3	1.6	3.0	1h-04m
16 years--------	100.0	22.0	6.3	17.8	30.5	15.1	4.3	2.2	1.8	1h-08m
17 years--------	100.0	24.6	4.9	12.7	32.2	14.4	6.7	2.0	2.5	1h-15m
Boys										
12-17 years--	100.0	24.7	8.4	20.5	29.0	10.3	3.8	1.6	1.6	0h-55m
12 years--------	100.0	18.7	12.0	23.5	30.0	9.5	3.9	1.2	1.2	0h-55m
13 years--------	100.0	21.8	8.2	24.7	27.8	11.1	3.5	1.4	1.5	0h-54m
14 years--------	100.0	21.5	9.7	22.8	29.8	8.0	3.6	2.7	2.0	0h-55m
15 years--------	100.0	28.2	7.2	19.9	27.0	10.4	3.7	1.0	2.6	0h-52m
16 years--------	100.0	27.9	8.0	17.0	29.8	11.4	3.5	1.8	0.6	0h-55m
17 years--------	100.0	31.6	4.5	13.9	29.9	11.9	4.7	1.6	1.9	0h-60m
Girls										
12-17 years--	100.0	14.5	5.8	19.2	33.9	16.2	5.5	2.2	2.7	1h-19m
12 years--------	100.0	8.2	6.7	23.5	39.2	13.3	3.9	2.5	2.8	1h-18m
13 years--------	100.0	11.0	7.2	21.2	33.8	16.9	5.8	1.9	2.2	1h-19m
14 years--------	100.0	16.3	6.0	22.4	31.9	15.0	5.1	1.5	1.9	1h-10m
15 years--------	100.0	18.4	4.8	17.1	32.4	16.8	4.9	2.2	3.4	1h-18m
16 years--------	100.0	16.1	4.6	18.7	31.2	18.8	5.0	2.7	3.0	1h-20m
17 years--------	100.0	17.5	5.3	11.6	34.6	16.9	8.8	2.3	3.2	1h-27m
	Standard error									
Both sexes 12-17 years-	...	1.18	0.45	0.59	0.81	0.66	0.28	0.21	0.23	---
Boys 12-17 years----------	...	1.67	0.63	0.73	1.11	0.73	0.32	0.22	0.27	---
Girls 12-17 years----------	...	0.87	0.48	0.79	0.83	0.78	0.44	0.28	0.35	---

Table 25. Percent of youths enrolled in school, percent distribution of those youths by hours worked per week, and percent of those youths getting paid for their work, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Youths in school								
	Percent of youths in school	Hours worked per week							Percent getting paid for work
		Total	None	1-4	5-9	10-20	Over 20	Work but do not know hours	
		Percent distribution							
Both sexes									
12-17 years	96.0	100.0	59.6	10.5	9.7	7.6	3.3	9.2	83.9
12 years	98.1	100.0	67.8	12.3	7.3	3.0	0.5	9.2	78.0
13 years	98.7	100.0	64.4	13.0	7.7	3.3	1.4	10.2	79.4
14 years	98.5	100.0	59.8	12.3	11.5	5.2	1.9	9.2	83.2
15 years	98.2	100.0	60.2	10.2	12.1	7.9	2.4	7.3	81.4
16 years	93.9	100.0	54.6	7.9	10.5	10.8	4.8	11.4	86.5
17 years	87.5	100.0	47.8	6.2	9.4	18.0	10.4	8.1	92.8
Boys									
12-17 years	96.0	100.0	53.7	11.8	10.5	9.3	4.9	9.8	86.8
12 years	97.8	100.0	62.5	14.4	8.7	3.5	1.0	10.0	84.9
13 years	98.3	100.0	57.1	16.3	8.4	4.9	2.3	11.0	79.6
14 years	97.8	100.0	54.0	13.4	14.1	6.5	3.3	8.7	90.5
15 years	98.9	100.0	55.1	11.6	12.0	10.0	2.9	8.4	83.9
16 years	94.7	100.0	49.7	7.4	10.2	13.9	7.2	11.6	86.5
17 years	87.7	100.0	40.2	5.9	9.7	20.1	14.8	9.2	94.3
Girls									
12-17 years	95.9	100.0	65.7	9.2	8.9	5.8	1.7	8.6	80.0
12 years	98.4	100.0	73.2	10.1	5.9	2.4	-	8.4	68.3
13 years	99.1	100.0	71.8	9.7	6.9	1.7	0.5	9.3	79.3
14 years	99.2	100.0	65.6	11.2	8.9	3.9	0.5	9.7	73.0
15 years	97.5	100.0	65.5	8.7	12.2	5.6	1.9	6.1	78.1
16 years	93.1	100.0	59.8	8.3	10.9	7.6	2.2	11.1	86.6
17 years	87.2	100.0	55.4	6.5	9.2	16.0	6.0	7.0	90.9
		Standard error							
Both sexes 12-17 years	0.42	...	1.16	0.60	0.39	0.45	0.40	0.42	1.44
Boys 12-17 years	0.46	...	1.08	0.73	0.68	0.65	0.53	0.68	1.22
Girls 12-17 years	0.49	...	1.03	0.65	0.65	0.56	0.39	0.68	2.10

Table 26. Percent distribution of youths enrolled in school by summer work activity, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Work during summer			
	Total	Full time	Part time	None
	Percent distribution			
Both sexes				
12-17 years	100.0	11.6	36.3	52.2
12 years	100.0	4.8	25.6	69.6
13 years	100.0	4.2	31.4	64.4
14 years	100.0	6.3	38.8	55.0
15 years	100.0	11.0	41.6	47.5
16 years	100.0	19.5	40.2	40.3
17 years	100.0	28.1	42.2	29.7
Boys				
12-17 years	100.0	16.9	44.2	38.9
12 years	100.0	7.5	34.2	58.3
13 years	100.0	5.6	42.9	51.5
14 years	100.0	9.3	47.8	42.9
15 years	100.0	15.4	52.9	31.7
16 years	100.0	30.0	43.8	26.1
17 years	100.0	39.7	44.2	16.1
Girls				
12-17 years	100.0	6.1	28.1	65.8
12 years	100.0	2.1	16.8	81.1
13 years	100.0	2.8	19.7	77.5
14 years	100.0	3.2	29.6	67.2
15 years	100.0	6.3	29.8	63.9
16 years	100.0	8.6	36.4	55.1
17 years	100.0	16.3	40.2	43.6
	Standard error			
Both sexes 12-17 years	...	0.63	1.00	0.83
Boys 12-17 years	...	1.00	1.53	1.11
Girls 12-17 years	...	0.48	0.74	0.77

Table 27. Percent of youths not enrolled in school and percent distribution of those youths by work status, according to sex and selected age groups, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Youths not in school				
	Percent of youths not in school	Work status			
		Total	Have a job	Not working but looking for a job	Not working and not looking for a job
Both sexes		Percent distribution			
12-17 years	4.0	100.0	33.1	34.5	32.5
16 years	6.1	100.0	26.7	46.1	27.2
17 years	12.5	100.0	49.5	29.3	21.3
Boys					
12-17 years	4.0	100.0	41.8	36.2	22.1
16 years	5.3	100.0	35.6	53.7	10.7
17 years	12.3	100.0	62.3	27.4	10.3
Girls					
12-17 years	4.1	100.0	24.2	32.7	43.1
16 years	6.9	100.0	19.6	40.0	40.3
17 years	12.8	100.0	36.8	31.2	32.1
		Standard error			
Both sexes 12-17 years	0.42	...	4.41	3.55	3.33
Boys 12-17 years	0.46	...	5.29	5.39	4.41
Girls 12-17 years	0.49	...	4.66	3.94	4.41

Table 28. Percent distributions of youths enrolled in elementary or secondary school by educational desires and expectancies, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Highest level of education desired						Highest level of education expected					
	Total	Quit school as soon as possible	Finish high school	Get some college or other training	Get a college degree	Finish college and take further training	Total	Quit school as soon as possible	Finish high school	Get some college or other training	Get a college degree	Finish college and take further training
	Percent distributions											
Both sexes												
12-17 years--	100.0	1.2	21.8	33.1	26.3	17.6	100.0	1.4	26.2	33.1	24.8	14.5
12 years----------	100.0	1.2	19.2	26.0	31.6	22.1	100.0	1.0	22.7	26.6	30.7	19.0
13 years----------	100.0	1.4	22.2	29.2	26.0	21.2	100.0	1.5	26.4	30.1	24.1	18.0
14 years----------	100.0	0.8	21.0	34.4	27.4	16.5	100.0	1.0	25.3	35.3	24.2	14.1
15 years----------	100.0	1.6	24.2	36.2	23.0	14.9	100.0	2.0	27.1	35.9	21.9	13.1
16 years----------	100.0	1.4	22.7	36.2	24.1	15.7	100.0	1.8	29.0	35.5	22.5	11.2
17 years----------	100.0	0.5	22.1	38.9	25.1	13.4	100.0	1.0	27.6	36.7	24.6	10.1
Boys												
12-17 years--	100.0	1.4	20.7	29.1	28.6	20.2	100.0	1.5	24.8	30.2	26.9	16.6
12 years----------	100.0	1.3	17.7	21.6	35.0	24.4	100.0	0.6	20.3	25.8	33.3	20.1
13 years----------	100.0	2.0	18.3	26.4	30.3	23.0	100.0	1.8	22.3	29.0	28.0	18.9
14 years----------	100.0	0.9	20.1	29.8	30.0	19.1	100.0	0.9	24.3	31.2	27.1	16.4
15 years----------	100.0	1.1	24.2	30.0	26.0	18.7	100.0	2.1	26.4	30.9	24.1	16.5
16 years----------	100.0	2.1	21.8	33.2	23.5	19.5	100.0	2.5	28.8	30.7	23.8	14.2
17 years----------	100.0	0.8	23.3	36.0	24.8	15.2	100.0	1.1	28.2	35.0	23.9	11.8
Girls												
12-17 years--	100.0	1.0	23.0	37.3	24.0	14.8	100.0	1.3	27.7	36.1	22.5	12.4
12 years----------	100.0	1.1	20.7	30.5	28.1	19.7	100.0	1.4	25.2	27.4	28.0	18.0
13 years----------	100.0	0.8	26.2	32.1	21.6	19.3	100.0	1.1	30.6	31.3	20.0	17.0
14 years----------	100.0	0.7	21.8	39.2	24.6	13.7	100.0	1.2	26.3	39.6	21.3	11.6
15 years----------	100.0	2.2	24.2	42.6	19.9	11.0	100.0	2.0	27.7	41.2	19.6	9.5
16 years----------	100.0	0.6	23.5	39.3	24.7	11.8	100.0	1.0	29.2	40.4	21.2	8.1
17 years----------	100.0	0.3	20.8	42.1	25.3	11.5	100.0	0.8	27.0	38.5	25.4	8.3
	Standard error											
Both sexes 12-17 years-	...	0.16	1.08	0.91	0.98	0.69	...	0.22	1.20	0.92	0.75	0.56
Boys 12-17 years----------	...	0.24	1.40	0.94	0.99	0.85	...	0.26	1.54	1.02	1.05	0.70
Girls 12-17 years----------	...	0.15	1.13	0.81	1.04	0.78	...	0.24	1.25	1.11	0.83	0.75

Table 29. Percent distributions of youths not enrolled in elementary or secondary school by educational desires and expectancies, according to enrollment status, selected age groups, and sex: United States, 1966-70

Enrollment status, age, and sex	Highest level of education desired						Highest level of education expected					
	Total	Quit school as soon as possible[1]	Finish high school	Get some college or other training	Get a college degree	Finish college and take further training	Total	Quit school as soon as possible[1]	Finish high school	Get some college or other training	Get a college degree	Finish college and take further training
	Percent distributions											
High school graduate												
12-17 years	100.0	...	8.2	59.5	26.7	5.6	100.0	...	13.7	57.4	24.7	4.2
17 years	100.0	...	8.6	59.0	26.5	5.9	100.0	...	14.3	56.8	24.5	4.5
High school graduate with further training												
12-17 years	100.0	...	...	15.6	43.6	40.8	100.0	...	...	20.5	47.2	32.2
17 years	100.0	...	...	16.3	42.5	41.2	100.0	...	...	21.4	46.4	32.2
High school dropout												
Both sexes, 12-17 years	100.0	36.9	48.3	9.8	3.8	1.3	100.0	51.8	37.5	6.5	2.0	2.3
Both sexes, 16 years	100.0	37.7	48.8	8.0	2.3	3.2	100.0	47.5	46.4	4.2	1.8	-
Both sexes, 17 years	100.0	34.7	53.0	10.0	1.7	0.6	100.0	52.7	32.7	9.0	1.5	4.0
Boys, 12-17 years	100.0	38.8	50.9	8.2	2.0	-	100.0	54.0	33.8	9.8	-	2.4
Boys, 16 years	100.0	45.9	45.5	8.7	-	-	100.0	54.4	39.9	5.7	-	-
Boys, 17 years	100.0	33.6	54.6	8.7	3.1	-	100.0	54.2	29.6	12.5	-	3.7
Girls, 12-17 years	100.0	35.1	45.8	11.2	5.4	2.5	100.0	49.7	40.9	3.4	3.8	2.2
Girls, 16 years	100.0	30.5	51.8	7.5	4.3	6.0	100.0	41.2	52.5	2.8	3.4	-
Girls, 17 years	100.0	35.9	51.1	11.6	-	1.4	100.0	51.1	36.3	5.0	3.3	4.3

[1] For youths who had already dropped out of school, the response "quit school as soon as possible" obviously reflects an actuality and was interpreted as a desire or expectancy to remain out of school.

Table 30. Percent distribution of youths by educational expectancies, according to enrollment in school and educational desires: United States, 1966-70

Enrollment status and educational desires	Educational expectancies					
	Total	Quit school as soon as possible[1]	Finish high school	Get some college or other training	Get a college degree	Finish college and take further training
	Percent distribution					
High school dropout						
Quit school as soon as possible	100.0	88.8	9.1	-	-	2.2
Finish high school	100.0	34.1	58.6	2.9	1.9	2.5
Get some college or other training	100.0	*	*	*	*	*
Get a college degree	100.0	*	*	*	*	*
Finish college and take further training	100.0	*	*	*	*	*
Youths enrolled in elementary or secondary school						
Quit school as soon as possible	100.0	61.7	30.5	4.2	1.8	1.8
Finish high school	100.0	2.4	86.0	7.7	2.2	1.7
Get some college or other training	100.0	0.1	17.2	77.2	3.4	2.1
Get a college degree	100.0	0.3	3.3	16.8	77.7	1.9
Finish college and take further training	100.0	0.1	3.1	7.8	15.1	73.8

[1] For youths who had already dropped out of school, the response "quit school as soon as possible" obviously reflects an actuality and was interpreted as a desire or expectancy to remain out of school.

Table 31. Mean number of personal traits youths rated "extremely important" and percent distribution of youths by number of personal traits rated this way, by sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Mean number of traits	Number of traits rated as extremely important												
		Total	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
		Percent distribution												
Both sexes														
12-17 years---	6.1	100.0	7.7	6.7	7.9	10.2	12.5	12.2	12.1	10.6	8.0	5.1	3.4	3.5
12 years----------	5.9	100.0	6.8	6.0	6.7	9.8	13.4	12.2	14.0	11.3	7.1	5.6	2.9	4.2
13 years----------	6.1	100.0	7.7	5.9	9.0	10.0	14.0	12.8	10.7	9.9	7.5	5.9	3.3	2.9
14 years----------	6.0	100.0	7.4	6.2	8.0	12.0	12.1	12.0	11.9	10.5	7.3	4.2	4.0	4.4
15 years----------	6.2	100.0	9.1	7.2	8.3	9.9	11.4	11.8	10.3	12.1	9.1	4.6	2.8	3.2
16 years----------	6.0	100.0	7.4	7.4	7.9	10.9	12.2	11.9	10.9	9.5	9.1	5.4	3.7	3.8
17 years----------	6.1	100.0	8.1	7.8	7.6	8.3	11.8	12.5	14.6	10.4	8.1	4.8	3.4	2.5
Boys														
12-17 years---	5.9	100.0	6.5	6.2	7.5	9.9	11.9	12.6	12.6	10.9	8.8	5.7	3.8	3.7
12 years----------	5.8	100.0	5.0	6.3	7.1	9.4	13.6	11.3	14.5	13.1	7.5	5.1	3.8	3.3
13 years----------	6.0	100.0	6.9	5.2	9.8	10.0	13.7	12.5	11.4	10.3	8.8	5.6	3.1	2.8
14 years----------	5.9	100.0	7.8	6.1	7.2	11.2	11.9	12.5	9.8	10.4	8.6	5.4	4.2	4.9
15 years----------	5.8	100.0	8.1	5.9	7.3	9.4	10.6	11.5	11.6	13.0	9.3	6.0	3.4	3.9
16 years----------	5.8	100.0	6.1	7.1	6.6	11.5	10.4	12.9	12.2	8.7	9.8	6.2	4.6	3.9
17 years----------	5.8	100.0	5.3	7.0	6.8	7.5	10.7	15.1	16.1	10.1	8.8	5.8	3.5	3.3
Girls														
12-17 years---	6.3	100.0	9.0	7.3	8.3	10.5	13.2	11.8	11.6	10.3	7.2	4.5	2.9	3.3
12 years----------	6.0	100.0	8.5	5.8	6.1	10.2	13.2	13.1	13.5	9.4	6.7	6.2	2.0	5.2
13 years----------	6.2	100.0	8.6	6.8	8.1	10.1	14.4	13.2	10.1	9.5	6.2	6.2	3.6	3.1
14 years----------	6.2	100.0	7.1	6.3	8.4	12.8	12.3	11.5	14.0	10.7	5.9	3.1	3.8	3.8
15 years----------	6.5	100.0	10.2	8.6	9.2	10.5	12.3	12.1	8.9	11.3	8.9	3.3	2.2	2.5
16 years----------	6.3	100.0	8.7	7.6	9.3	10.3	14.0	10.9	9.6	10.3	8.4	4.5	2.7	3.7
17 years----------	6.5	100.0	10.8	8.7	8.3	9.1	13.0	10.0	13.2	10.8	7.3	3.8	3.3	1.6
		Standard error												
Both sexes 12-17 years--	0.05	...	0.36	0.31	0.36	0.53	0.41	0.37	0.40	0.39	0.37	0.45	0.20	0.22
Boys 12-17 years----	0.05	...	0.49	0.44	0.54	0.56	0.55	0.46	0.57	0.68	0.50	0.48	0.30	0.26
Girls 12-17 years---	0.07	...	0.49	0.37	0.50	0.80	0.65	0.63	0.68	0.58	0.46	0.54	0.31	0.33

Table 32. Percent distribution of youths by attitudes toward obeying the law and being neat and clean, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Importance of obeying the law				Importance of being neat and clean			
	Extremely important	Important	Slightly important	Unimportant	Extremely important	Important	Slightly important	Unimportant
	Percent distributions							
Both sexes								
12-17 years--	72.3	25.1	2.2	0.4	68.4	29.5	1.8	0.3
12 years--------	81.0	16.6	1.8	0.6	62.2	34.8	2.4	0.7
13 years--------	78.0	19.8	1.8	0.4	67.7	30.6	1.3	0.4
14 years--------	73.9	23.6	2.2	0.3	70.9	27.1	1.9	0.1
15 years--------	70.9	26.4	2.5	0.2	71.2	27.3	1.4	0.1
16 years--------	65.3	32.5	1.9	0.3	68.9	29.1	1.6	0.3
17 years--------	63.3	33.3	2.9	0.5	70.1	27.7	2.2	-
Boys								
12-17 years--	69.8	26.9	2.9	0.5	62.0	35.3	2.4	0.4
12 years--------	80.4	17.5	1.4	0.7	55.0	41.5	2.7	0.8
13 years--------	75.9	21.3	2.7	0.1	63.6	33.7	2.2	0.5
14 years--------	73.3	23.5	3.0	0.3	64.3	33.0	2.4	0.3
15 years--------	67.1	29.1	3.3	0.4	65.8	32.2	1.8	0.2
16 years--------	61.8	35.4	2.4	0.4	62.2	35.7	1.7	0.4
17 years--------	57.8	36.3	4.8	1.0	61.2	35.5	3.3	-
Girls								
12-17 years--	75.0	23.3	1.4	0.3	75.0	23.6	1.2	0.2
12 years--------	81.5	15.6	2.3	0.6	69.5	28.0	2.0	0.6
13 years--------	80.2	18.4	0.8	0.7	71.9	27.4	0.4	0.4
14 years--------	74.5	23.6	1.5	0.4	77.7	21.0	1.3	-
15 years--------	74.8	23.6	1.6	-	76.7	22.2	1.0	-
16 years--------	68.9	29.6	1.3	0.2	75.8	22.4	1.5	0.3
17 years--------	68.9	30.2	0.9	-	79.2	19.8	1.1	-
	Standard error							
Both sexes 12-17 years-	0.76	0.62	0.22	0.07	0.80	0.75	0.19	0.06
Boys 12-17 years----------	0.98	0.87	0.36	0.10	1.07	1.01	0.31	0.09
Girls 12-17 years----------	0.89	0.81	0.19	0.10	1.11	1.04	0.16	0.08

Table 33. Percent distributions of youths by attitudes toward obeying one's parents and knowing how to keep in good health, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Importance of obeying one's parents				Importance of knowing how to keep in good health			
	Extremely important	Important	Slightly important	Unimportant	Extremely important	Important	Slightly important	Unimportant
	Percent distributions							
Both sexes								
12-17 years--	66.1	30.8	2.5	0.6	64.4	33.0	2.2	0.4
12 years--------	78.7	18.3	2.2	0.8	70.7	26.5	2.2	0.7
13 years--------	72.5	25.0	2.0	0.5	67.4	30.3	1.6	0.7
14 years--------	67.9	29.6	1.9	0.5	63.8	33.4	2.6	0.2
15 years--------	63.5	33.4	2.6	0.5	63.7	33.8	2.2	0.3
16 years--------	59.0	37.5	3.2	0.3	59.5	37.8	2.5	0.2
17 years--------	52.7	43.1	3.5	0.7	60.4	37.1	2.2	0.2
Boys								
12-17 years--	64.4	32.1	2.7	0.8	63.5	33.3	2.7	0.5
12 years--------	77.8	18.8	2.4	1.0	69.8	27.4	1.9	1.0
13 years--------	72.0	25.2	2.2	0.6	67.1	30.8	1.4	0.8
14 years--------	66.9	30.4	1.6	1.1	62.7	33.1	3.7	0.5
15 years--------	60.5	36.1	2.5	0.8	61.1	35.7	2.6	0.5
16 years--------	56.9	40.0	3.1	-	61.3	35.2	3.5	-
17 years--------	49.4	44.6	4.6	1.3	57.8	38.5	3.2	0.5
Girls								
12-17 years--	67.9	29.4	2.4	0.3	65.4	32.7	1.7	0.2
12 years--------	79.5	17.9	2.0	0.6	71.6	25.6	2.5	0.4
13 years--------	73.0	24.7	1.9	0.5	67.7	29.8	1.8	0.6
14 years--------	69.0	28.9	2.2	-	65.0	33.7	1.4	-
15 years--------	66.6	30.6	2.6	0.2	66.3	31.9	1.8	-
16 years--------	61.2	35.0	3.2	0.7	57.8	40.4	1.5	0.3
17 years--------	56.0	41.6	2.4	-	63.1	35.8	1.1	-
	Standard error							
Both sexes 12-17 years-	1.04	0.97	0.16	0.09	0.82	0.78	0.17	0.08
Boys 12-17 years----------	1.19	1.05	0.32	0.13	0.97	0.93	0.28	0.14
Girls 12-17 years----------	1.21	1.14	0.27	0.11	1.27	1.07	0.27	0.07

Table 34. Percent distributions of youths by attitudes toward self-control and dependability, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Importance of having self-control				Importance of being dependable			
	Extremely important	Important	Slightly important	Unimportant	Extremely important	Important	Slightly important	Unimportant
	Percent distributions							
Both sexes								
12-17 years--	62.9	33.8	2.6	0.7	59.2	36.9	3.2	0.8
12 years--------	58.9	35.6	4.4	1.1	52.1	41.5	5.4	0.9
13 years--------	62.0	33.5	3.7	0.8	58.9	36.3	3.8	1.0
14 years--------	61.0	36.3	2.1	0.5	59.2	37.4	2.6	0.9
15 years--------	64.0	32.7	2.8	0.4	58.6	38.3	2.3	0.9
16 years--------	67.3	30.5	1.3	0.8	63.3	34.0	2.4	0.4
17 years--------	65.1	33.5	1.1	0.3	63.8	33.2	2.4	0.6
Boys								
12-17 years--	62.5	33.9	2.8	0.8	59.2	36.5	3.3	1.0
12 years--------	61.0	32.3	5.1	1.7	51.6	41.5	5.7	1.2
13 years--------	62.0	33.5	3.6	0.9	60.0	35.7	3.0	1.2
14 years--------	61.1	36.2	2.0	0.7	59.3	36.9	2.8	1.1
15 years--------	61.1	35.0	3.2	0.7	56.6	39.7	2.7	1.0
16 years--------	68.4	29.7	1.5	0.4	64.7	32.3	2.6	0.4
17 years--------	61.7	36.6	1.2	0.4	63.9	32.3	2.8	0.9
Girls								
12-17 years--	63.4	33.6	2.4	0.5	59.1	37.2	3.1	0.6
12 years--------	56.9	38.9	3.6	0.6	52.6	41.5	5.2	0.6
13 years--------	62.0	33.5	3.9	0.7	57.7	37.0	4.5	0.8
14 years--------	60.9	36.4	2.3	0.4	59.1	37.8	2.4	0.7
15 years--------	67.0	30.4	2.4	0.2	60.6	36.8	1.8	0.8
16 years--------	66.1	31.5	1.2	1.3	61.9	35.6	2.1	0.4
17 years--------	68.4	30.4	1.0	0.1	63.7	34.1	2.0	0.3
	Standard error							
Both sexes 12-17 years-	0.69	0.53	0.27	0.15	0.88	0.76	0.29	0.14
Boys 12-17 years----------	0.73	0.72	0.40	0.21	0.92	0.92	0.37	0.16
Girls 12-17 years----------	1.22	1.14	0.29	0.14	1.37	1.21	0.35	0.16

Table 35. Percent distributions of youths by attitudes toward being considerate of others and being happy, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Importance of being considerate of others				Importance of being happy			
	Extremely important	Important	Slightly important	Unimportant	Extremely important	Important	Slightly important	Unimportant
	Percent distributions							
Both sexes								
12-17 years--	51.1	44.2	3.8	1.0	50.2	42.8	5.8	1.2
12 years--------	44.0	48.7	5.4	1.9	38.6	49.9	9.0	2.5
13 years--------	49.2	45.1	4.2	1.4	45.8	43.4	8.8	1.9
14 years--------	51.1	44.6	3.9	0.3	46.4	46.2	6.1	1.2
15 years--------	51.7	43.5	4.1	0.8	54.4	40.7	4.1	0.8
16 years--------	53.2	43.2	2.8	0.7	56.3	39.4	3.8	0.5
17 years--------	57.9	39.2	2.4	0.5	61.8	35.7	2.3	0.3
Boys								
12-17 years--	46.3	47.9	4.8	1.0	45.5	45.7	7.5	1.3
12 years--------	43.2	48.8	5.7	2.3	35.0	51.6	10.2	3.2
13 years--------	46.8	45.6	6.3	1.3	43.1	43.8	11.3	1.8
14 years--------	45.8	49.9	3.9	0.4	42.2	48.8	7.8	1.2
15 years--------	46.6	47.5	4.9	1.0	46.5	46.9	5.5	1.1
16 years--------	47.8	48.0	3.8	0.5	51.5	43.3	5.0	0.1
17 years--------	47.8	47.4	4.4	0.4	56.3	39.1	4.3	0.3
Girls								
12-17 years--	55.9	40.4	2.8	0.9	55.1	39.7	4.1	1.1
12 years--------	44.9	48.6	5.0	1.5	42.2	48.2	7.7	1.9
13 years--------	51.7	44.5	2.1	1.6	48.7	43.0	6.3	2.0
14 years--------	56.6	39.3	3.8	0.3	50.8	43.6	4.4	1.2
15 years--------	56.8	39.3	3.3	0.5	62.5	34.4	2.6	0.5
16 years--------	59.0	38.3	1.8	0.9	61.1	35.4	2.5	0.9
17 years--------	68.2	30.9	0.4	0.6	67.3	32.2	0.3	0.2
	Standard error							
Both sexes 12-17 years-	1.03	0.82	0.30	0.17	1.16	1.10	0.38	0.15
Boys 12-17 years----------	1.03	0.92	0.39	0.19	1.31	1.35	0.62	0.18
Girls 12-17 years----------	1.39	1.25	0.33	0.24	1.28	1.16	0.33	0.20

Table 36. Percent distributions of youths by attitudes toward facing life's problems calmly and being ambitious, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Importance of facing life's problems calmly				Importance of being ambitious			
	Extremely important	Important	Slightly important	Unimportant	Extremely important	Important	Slightly important	Unimportant
	Percent distributions							
Both sexes								
12-17 years--	46.1	47.5	5.5	0.9	34.1	53.0	10.4	2.5
12 years--------	43.9	48.3	6.2	1.6	28.2	52.5	14.9	4.4
13 years--------	46.1	47.0	6.1	0.9	30.9	53.9	11.8	3.3
14 years--------	45.7	47.7	5.9	0.7	32.5	54.8	10.8	1.9
15 years--------	46.3	47.6	5.3	0.8	39.7	51.0	7.5	1.8
16 years--------	46.7	47.5	4.8	1.0	36.2	52.9	8.9	2.0
17 years--------	48.5	46.7	4.4	0.4	38.1	53.0	7.7	1.3
Boys								
12-17 years--	45.6	46.6	6.7	1.1	35.1	51.3	10.9	2.7
12 years--------	43.5	48.4	5.9	2.3	29.4	50.4	15.6	4.6
13 years--------	45.5	46.5	7.4	0.6	33.2	50.7	12.5	3.6
14 years--------	47.6	43.5	8.1	0.7	34.6	51.9	10.9	2.6
15 years--------	45.6	46.6	6.7	1.0	39.4	50.0	8.6	2.0
16 years--------	45.0	48.0	5.9	1.0	34.0	53.5	10.7	1.8
17 years--------	46.6	46.6	5.9	0.8	40.9	51.3	6.3	1.5
Girls								
12-17 years--	46.7	48.3	4.3	0.7	33.1	54.8	9.8	2.3
12 years--------	44.2	48.2	6.6	0.9	27.0	54.7	14.2	4.2
13 years--------	46.7	47.5	4.7	1.1	28.5	57.2	11.2	3.1
14 years--------	43.8	51.9	3.7	0.6	30.4	57.7	10.7	1.2
15 years--------	46.9	48.6	3.9	0.6	39.9	52.1	6.4	1.7
16 years--------	48.4	46.9	3.7	1.0	38.4	52.2	7.1	2.3
17 years--------	50.4	46.8	2.8	-	35.2	54.7	9.0	1.1
	Standard error							
Both sexes 12-17 years-	0.60	0.72	0.28	0.12	0.70	0.67	0.55	0.25
Boys 12-17 years----------	0.82	0.83	0.50	0.14	0.86	1.01	0.62	0.36
Girls 12-17 years----------	0.97	1.02	0.21	0.17	0.77	0.91	0.74	0.37

Table 37. Percent distribution of youths by attitude toward being able to defend oneself, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Importance of being able to defend oneself			
	Extremely important	Important	Slightly important	Unimportant
	Percent distribution			
Both sexes				
12-17 years	30.7	55.3	12.6	1.5
12 years	32.0	53.2	12.6	2.2
13 years	32.2	52.7	13.5	1.6
14 years	29.7	56.2	12.2	1.8
15 years	32.4	54.3	12.1	1.2
16 years	27.8	59.3	11.7	1.1
17 years	29.5	56.1	13.4	1.1
Boys				
12-17 years	33.3	52.0	13.2	1.5
12 years	35.3	48.8	13.5	2.3
13 years	35.5	49.2	13.7	1.6
14 years	31.9	53.9	12.5	1.7
15 years	34.6	50.6	13.2	1.5
16 years	28.8	56.5	13.6	1.0
17 years	33.0	53.8	12.5	0.7
Girls				
12-17 years	28.0	58.5	11.9	1.5
12 years	28.6	57.8	11.6	2.0
13 years	28.8	56.4	13.2	1.6
14 years	27.5	58.6	11.9	2.0
15 years	30.1	58.1	10.9	0.8
16 years	26.8	62.2	9.7	1.3
17 years	25.9	58.4	14.2	1.4
	Standard error			
Both sexes 12-17 years	0.67	0.75	0.49	0.15
Boys 12-17 years	0.83	0.98	0.64	0.24
Girls 12-17 years	0.92	0.89	0.64	0.18

Table 38. Mean number of medical symptoms for which youths said they would definitely want to see a doctor and percent distribution of youths by number of symptoms for which they would definitely want to see a doctor, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Mean number of symptoms	Number of symptoms rated as definitely requiring a doctor													
		Total	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
		Percent distribution													
Both sexes															
12-17 years--	3.4	100.0	0.6	0.6	0.8	1.4	2.8	4.4	7.1	11.4	15.2	17.2	15.5	9.0	13.9
12 years----------	3.5	100.0	0.8	0.7	0.9	1.2	3.2	5.0	8.8	12.5	15.7	15.4	11.8	8.0	16.0
13 years----------	3.5	100.0	0.7	0.7	0.6	2.2	3.1	4.4	8.2	12.5	14.4	15.7	14.7	8.1	14.6
14 years----------	3.3	100.0	0.3	0.3	1.2	1.3	2.5	5.6	6.8	10.6	13.3	17.2	15.9	10.0	15.1
15 years----------	3.3	100.0	0.7	1.1	0.6	1.4	2.1	3.5	6.6	11.9	15.7	16.5	17.2	8.6	14.1
16 years----------	3.3	100.0	0.3	0.6	0.8	0.8	2.3	4.2	6.4	9.8	17.7	19.0	16.8	10.2	11.2
17 years----------	3.3	100.0	0.4	0.5	0.5	1.2	3.3	3.9	5.7	11.1	14.9	20.0	17.3	9.3	12.0
Boys															
12-17 years--	3.2	100.0	0.6	0.6	0.9	1.5	2.7	3.7	6.4	10.6	13.7	16.8	17.7	10.2	14.7
12 years----------	3.5	100.0	0.8	0.4	0.7	1.5	3.5	4.0	9.8	12.6	15.0	15.5	13.0	7.3	15.8
13 years----------	3.4	100.0	0.9	1.1	0.7	2.2	2.2	3.7	7.5	11.8	15.8	14.3	15.3	9.8	14.8
14 years----------	3.2	100.0	0.4	0.5	1.6	1.5	2.8	4.8	5.8	9.1	11.9	18.1	18.3	8.3	17.0
15 years----------	3.1	100.0	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.2	1.8	1.6	5.5	12.5	13.9	15.1	21.2	9.9	14.7
16 years----------	3.1	100.0	0.5	0.6	0.9	1.0	2.1	4.4	4.9	7.7	14.0	19.3	19.3	13.2	12.2
17 years----------	3.0	100.0	0.2	0.1	0.5	1.3	3.6	3.8	4.4	9.2	11.6	19.1	19.4	13.4	13.3
Girls															
12-17 years--	3.5	100.0	0.5	0.7	0.7	1.2	2.9	5.2	7.9	12.3	16.8	17.6	13.4	7.8	13.1
12 years----------	3.5	100.0	0.8	0.9	1.1	0.8	2.9	6.0	7.8	12.5	16.4	15.3	10.5	8.7	16.2
13 years----------	3.6	100.0	0.6	0.3	0.6	2.3	4.1	5.1	9.0	13.1	13.0	17.2	14.0	6.4	14.3
14 years----------	3.4	100.0	0.2	0.1	0.9	1.1	2.2	6.3	7.8	12.0	14.7	16.4	13.3	11.8	13.2
15 years----------	3.6	100.0	0.6	1.3	0.4	1.6	2.4	5.5	7.6	11.3	17.5	18.0	13.0	7.3	13.6
16 years----------	3.5	100.0	0.1	0.7	0.7	0.6	2.5	3.9	8.0	12.0	21.4	18.7	14.3	7.0	10.1
17 years----------	3.6	100.0	0.7	0.8	0.4	1.0	3.0	4.0	7.0	13.0	18.2	20.8	15.2	5.1	10.7
		Standard error													
Both sexes 12-17 years-	0.05	---	0.09	0.14	0.16	0.12	0.24	0.26	0.36	0.36	0.52	0.52	0.44	0.35	0.46
Boys 12-17 years----------	0.06	---	0.12	0.16	0.23	0.16	0.36	0.25	0.52	0.54	0.50	0.57	0.72	0.52	0.56
Girls 12-17 years----------	0.06	---	0.14	0.19	0.13	0.19	0.26	0.36	0.48	0.59	0.84	0.90	0.61	0.58	0.60

Table 39. Percent distributions of youths by perceived need for a doctor for the symptoms blood in urine or bowel movement, lump in stomach or abdomen, and pain in chest, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Blood in urine or bowel movement			Lump in stomach or abdomen			Pain in chest		
	Definitely want to see doctor	Probably want to see doctor	Not want to see doctor	Definitely want to see doctor	Probably want to see doctor	Not want to see doctor	Definitely want to see doctor	Probably want to see doctor	Not want to see doctor
	Percent distributions								
Both sexes									
12-17 years---	74.5	19.6	5.9	71.7	22.9	5.4	50.1	39.3	10.6
12 years----------	66.0	24.2	9.7	68.0	24.6	7.4	48.8	38.1	13.2
13 years----------	71.2	21.3	7.5	69.2	24.4	6.4	50.3	38.9	10.8
14 years----------	73.0	19.7	7.3	69.4	25.5	5.1	48.7	40.2	11.1
15 years----------	76.5	19.8	3.7	72.5	23.3	4.3	48.9	40.2	10.9
16 years----------	79.4	16.2	4.4	76.3	18.8	5.0	52.3	38.4	9.3
17 years----------	81.9	15.8	2.3	75.4	20.5	4.0	51.7	40.3	8.0
Boys									
12-17 years---	75.3	19.0	5.7	67.5	25.9	6.6	44.6	41.8	13.7
12 years----------	69.9	21.6	8.6	66.5	24.5	9.0	46.3	37.0	16.7
13 years----------	72.0	20.2	7.8	65.4	26.0	8.6	47.0	38.9	14.2
14 years----------	73.7	20.4	5.9	66.3	28.2	5.4	42.6	43.1	14.3
15 years----------	77.4	18.9	3.8	68.0	27.0	4.9	42.2	43.7	14.1
16 years----------	79.2	16.4	4.3	70.2	23.9	5.9	45.9	42.3	11.8
17 years----------	80.8	16.1	3.1	68.8	25.5	5.7	43.1	46.6	10.4
Girls									
12-17 years---	73.6	20.3	6.2	75.9	19.9	4.1	55.7	36.8	7.5
12 years----------	62.2	26.9	10.9	69.6	24.7	5.7	51.3	39.2	9.6
13 years----------	70.4	22.3	7.3	73.1	22.7	4.1	53.6	39.0	7.4
14 years----------	72.3	19.1	8.7	72.5	22.7	4.8	54.8	37.4	7.8
15 years----------	75.7	20.7	3.6	77.0	19.4	3.6	55.7	36.7	7.6
16 years----------	79.5	16.1	4.4	82.5	13.5	4.0	58.9	34.4	6.7
17 years----------	83.0	15.6	1.4	82.1	15.5	2.3	60.5	33.9	5.6
	Standard error								
Both sexes 12-17 years--	0.63	0.52	0.34	0.75	0.57	0.31	0.82	0.73	0.55
Boys 12-17 years----	0.89	0.81	0.47	1.01	0.96	0.31	1.04	1.12	0.79
Girls 12-17 years---	1.03	0.77	0.48	0.79	0.54	0.49	1.01	0.89	0.63

Table 40. Percent distributions of youths by perceived need for a doctor for the symptoms hurt all over, stiff neck or back, and loss of appetite, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Hurt all over			Stiff neck or back			Loss of appetite		
	Definitely want to see doctor	Probably want to see doctor	Not want to see doctor	Definitely want to see doctor	Probably want to see doctor	Not want to see doctor	Definitely want to see doctor	Probably want to see doctor	Not want to see doctor
	Percent distributions								
Both sexes									
12-17 years	44.6	39.4	15.9	23.8	37.8	38.4	19.4	39.9	40.7
12 years	51.3	35.8	12.9	30.6	36.7	32.8	22.7	39.2	38.1
13 years	50.1	38.0	11.9	25.4	38.8	35.8	22.5	41.0	36.4
14 years	43.4	40.5	16.2	24.4	39.1	36.5	21.2	39.5	39.4
15 years	42.4	40.4	17.2	22.3	38.3	39.4	16.8	42.5	40.7
16 years	39.7	41.1	19.2	21.2	35.1	43.7	15.1	37.9	47.0
17 years	39.8	41.3	18.9	18.1	38.7	43.2	17.7	39.0	43.2
Boys									
12-17 years	42.2	39.0	18.8	21.4	35.6	43.0	19.7	37.2	43.0
12 years	51.6	32.3	16.1	29.5	34.5	35.9	22.5	37.2	40.4
13 years	48.7	38.0	13.3	22.6	36.0	41.5	24.4	36.3	39.3
14 years	41.2	39.4	19.4	23.0	37.2	39.8	22.4	36.8	40.8
15 years	38.8	40.3	20.9	20.2	34.3	45.4	15.8	40.7	43.6
16 years	36.6	40.2	23.2	15.9	36.3	47.7	14.8	34.8	50.4
17 years	34.5	44.6	20.9	16.0	35.0	48.9	17.6	37.7	44.7
Girls									
12-17 years	47.2	39.9	13.0	26.3	40.1	33.6	19.1	42.6	38.3
12 years	51.0	39.3	9.7	31.6	38.9	29.5	22.9	41.3	35.9
13 years	51.6	38.0	10.4	28.3	41.8	29.9	20.6	45.9	33.5
14 years	45.6	41.5	12.9	25.8	41.1	33.1	19.8	42.3	37.9
15 years	46.0	40.5	13.5	24.4	42.4	33.1	17.8	44.4	37.9
16 years	42.9	41.9	15.2	26.5	33.9	39.6	15.4	41.1	43.5
17 years	45.2	37.9	16.8	20.2	42.5	37.3	17.9	40.4	41.7
	Standard error								
Both sexes 12-17 years	1.08	0.85	0.68	0.82	0.57	0.80	0.74	0.55	0.78
Boys 12-17 years	1.31	1.26	0.91	0.91	0.76	0.97	0.65	0.72	0.97
Girls 12-17 years	1.27	1.04	0.68	0.90	0.80	1.01	0.98	0.87	0.93

Table 41. Percent distributions of youths by perceived need for a doctor for the symptoms overtiredness, nervousness, and vomiting, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Overtiredness			Nervousness			Vomiting		
	Definitely want to see doctor	Probably want to see doctor	Not want to see doctor	Definitely want to see doctor	Probably want to see doctor	Not want to see doctor	Definitely want to see doctor	Probably want to see doctor	Not want to see doctor
	Percent distributions								
Both sexes									
12-17 years	14.8	35.8	49.4	13.7	43.3	42.9	11.9	34.3	53.8
12 years	16.2	35.0	48.7	16.1	44.2	39.7	13.7	37.1	49.2
13 years	16.1	33.7	50.3	15.1	42.3	42.6	15.7	34.8	49.4
14 years	14.4	37.7	47.9	12.2	44.2	43.6	10.0	33.2	56.9
15 years	14.4	36.2	49.4	14.5	42.9	42.6	10.8	33.8	55.4
16 years	14.0	37.3	48.7	12.5	43.1	44.4	10.7	32.3	57.0
17 years	13.2	35.2	51.5	11.8	43.1	45.1	10.3	34.4	55.3
Boys									
12-17 years	13.8	32.5	53.7	14.6	39.6	45.8	11.3	32.8	55.8
12 years	15.1	33.7	51.2	18.3	42.0	39.7	13.9	36.7	49.4
13 years	15.1	30.0	54.9	14.5	40.6	44.9	14.3	36.2	49.5
14 years	13.9	34.9	51.2	13.6	37.1	49.3	11.1	29.9	59.0
15 years	12.5	32.0	55.5	13.6	38.8	47.6	9.9	30.4	59.8
16 years	13.6	31.8	54.6	14.2	38.7	47.1	9.8	32.2	57.9
17 years	12.4	32.3	55.3	13.0	40.4	46.6	8.4	31.1	60.4
Girls									
12-17 years	15.7	39.3	45.0	12.9	47.1	40.0	12.6	35.8	51.6
12 years	17.4	36.4	46.3	13.8	46.4	39.8	13.5	37.4	49.1
13 years	17.1	37.5	45.4	15.7	44.1	40.3	17.2	33.4	49.4
14 years	14.9	40.6	44.4	10.7	51.5	37.7	8.8	36.5	54.7
15 years	16.3	40.4	43.3	15.4	47.2	37.4	11.8	37.3	50.9
16 years	14.4	42.9	42.7	10.8	47.7	41.5	11.6	32.4	56.0
17 years	14.1	38.2	47.7	10.6	45.9	43.5	12.2	37.8	50.0
	Standard error								
Both sexes 12-17 years	0.61	0.69	0.92	0.55	0.71	0.96	0.36	0.62	0.69
Boys 12-17 years	0.75	0.95	1.24	0.66	1.15	1.41	0.57	0.69	0.76
Girls 12-17 years	0.94	0.78	1.11	0.58	0.80	0.91	0.49	0.90	0.85

Table 42. Percent distributions of youths by perceived need for a doctor for the symptoms sore throat, stomach ache, and headache, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Sore throat			Stomach ache			Headache		
	Definitely want to see doctor	Probably want to see doctor	Not want to see doctor	Definitely want to see doctor	Probably want to see doctor	Not want to see doctor	Definitely want to see doctor	Probably want to see doctor	Not want to see doctor
	Percent distributions								
Both sexes									
12-17 years	8.1	36.5	55.4	4.3	19.6	76.1	2.8	14.0	83.2
12 years	11.0	39.7	49.3	5.1	23.1	71.7	3.7	17.0	79.3
13 years	10.2	37.2	52.6	5.2	21.9	73.0	3.1	15.8	81.1
14 years	6.5	37.9	55.5	3.9	19.0	77.1	2.4	12.8	84.7
15 years	7.5	34.0	58.5	4.5	18.9	76.6	2.7	13.3	84.0
16 years	5.9	33.7	60.4	3.5	16.3	80.1	2.1	12.1	85.8
17 years	7.0	35.8	57.2	3.4	18.0	78.7	2.5	12.7	84.8
Boys									
12-17 years	7.6	32.7	59.7	4.7	17.2	78.1	3.0	12.4	84.6
12 years	10.9	36.8	52.4	5.4	20.2	74.4	3.9	17.7	78.4
13 years	9.7	33.3	57.0	5.8	18.4	75.8	3.2	13.3	83.5
14 years	7.1	33.0	59.9	4.6	16.3	79.0	3.5	10.2	86.2
15 years	6.4	30.7	62.9	5.5	15.8	78.7	3.1	10.7	86.3
16 years	5.9	29.3	64.8	3.8	14.2	82.0	1.8	11.7	86.5
17 years	5.2	32.8	62.0	2.8	18.1	79.1	2.4	10.3	87.3
Girls									
12-17 years	8.6	40.3	51.1	3.9	22.1	74.1	2.5	15.7	81.8
12 years	11.2	42.7	46.1	4.9	26.1	69.1	3.5	16.3	80.2
13 years	10.6	41.4	48.0	4.5	25.5	70.1	3.1	18.4	78.5
14 years	6.0	42.9	51.1	3.2	21.6	75.1	1.3	15.5	83.2
15 years	8.6	37.4	54.0	3.4	22.1	74.5	2.3	16.0	81.7
16 years	6.0	38.3	55.8	3.2	18.5	78.3	2.5	12.4	85.1
17 years	8.9	38.8	52.3	3.9	17.8	78.2	2.5	15.1	82.4
	Standard error								
Both sexes 12-17 years	0.52	0.90	1.26	0.31	0.64	0.86	0.28	0.58	0.77
Boys 12-17 years	0.55	0.98	1.33	0.42	0.72	1.01	0.44	0.74	1.00
Girls 12-17 years	0.67	1.21	1.48	0.35	0.77	0.99	0.32	0.77	0.89

Table 43. Mean number of dental conditions for which youths said they would definitely want to see a dentist and percent distribution of youths by number of conditions for which they would definitely want to see a dentist, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Mean number of conditions	Number of conditions rated as definitely requiring a dentist								
		Total	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Both sexes		Percent distribution								
12-17 years	3.0	100.0	3.1	7.0	11.9	18.2	19.4	16.2	12.3	12.0
12 years	3.0	100.0	3.4	7.3	11.1	20.0	18.5	16.2	11.3	12.3
13 years	2.9	100.0	3.0	6.7	11.1	17.7	20.2	16.7	12.6	12.1
14 years	2.9	100.0	2.9	6.3	10.4	16.4	21.3	17.1	13.5	12.1
15 years	3.0	100.0	2.4	7.8	12.9	19.7	17.9	14.3	11.9	13.1
16 years	3.0	100.0	3.2	6.8	11.5	19.1	18.5	17.7	12.0	11.2
17 years	3.1	100.0	3.3	7.2	14.6	15.9	19.9	15.6	12.7	10.8
Boys										
12-17 years	2.8	100.0	2.9	7.1	10.3	16.8	19.3	16.5	13.4	13.8
12 years	3.1	100.0	3.0	8.6	10.9	21.2	18.3	15.9	11.1	11.0
13 years	2.9	100.0	2.8	7.2	10.1	15.8	22.5	16.1	12.3	13.2
14 years	2.8	100.0	3.8	6.2	9.9	14.1	22.0	17.3	13.3	13.5
15 years	2.8	100.0	1.6	7.1	10.4	18.4	17.9	15.2	13.3	16.0
16 years	2.8	100.0	2.8	6.5	9.8	16.6	16.7	18.5	15.0	14.0
17 years	2.8	100.0	3.5	6.8	10.8	14.3	17.7	16.1	15.5	15.3
Girls										
12-17 years	3.1	100.0	3.2	6.9	13.4	19.6	19.6	16.0	11.3	10.1
12 years	2.9	100.0	3.9	6.0	11.2	18.7	18.8	16.4	11.4	13.5
13 years	3.0	100.0	3.2	6.1	12.1	19.7	17.8	17.4	12.9	11.0
14 years	2.9	100.0	2.0	6.4	11.0	18.8	20.7	16.8	13.6	10.7
15 years	3.2	100.0	3.3	8.5	15.4	21.1	17.9	13.3	10.6	10.0
16 years	3.2	100.0	3.6	7.1	13.2	21.7	20.4	16.7	8.9	8.4
17 years	3.4	100.0	3.2	7.5	18.4	17.6	22.0	15.0	10.0	6.3
		Standard error								
Both sexes 12-17 years	0.03	...	0.37	0.46	0.54	0.62	0.63	0.60	0.55	0.55
Boys 12-17 years	0.04	...	0.44	0.60	0.68	0.83	0.86	0.81	0.75	0.77
Girls 12-17 years	0.03	...	0.44	0.60	0.75	0.88	0.88	1.75	1.49	1.43

Table 44. Percent distributions of youths by perceived need for a dentist for the conditions hole or cavity in tooth and crooked teeth, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Hole or cavity in tooth			Crooked teeth		
	Definitely want to see dentist	Probably want to see dentist	Not want to see dentist	Definitely want to see dentist	Probably want to see dentist	Not want to see dentist
	Percent distributions					
Both sexes						
12-17 years	64.7	29.2	6.1	52.8	38.0	9.2
12 years	66.2	27.6	6.2	54.9	37.0	8.1
13 years	64.5	29.3	6.2	54.6	36.5	8.9
14 years	62.6	32.0	5.4	51.5	39.7	8.8
15 years	65.0	28.1	6.8	54.1	38.0	7.9
16 years	65.3	28.3	6.4	51.2	39.0	9.9
17 years	64.3	29.8	5.9	50.0	38.2	11.8
Boys						
12-17 years	63.3	29.3	7.5	51.0	38.3	10.7
12 years	67.6	26.1	6.2	56.8	35.3	7.9
13 years	65.6	26.2	8.2	52.9	36.5	10.6
14 years	63.4	31.4	5.2	51.2	38.4	10.4
15 years	61.7	29.1	9.2	50.1	39.4	10.5
16 years	62.4	30.0	7.7	46.6	42.6	10.9
17 years	58.0	33.4	8.6	47.4	38.0	14.6
Girls						
12-17 years	66.1	29.1	4.8	54.6	37.8	7.6
12 years	64.8	29.0	6.2	53.1	38.7	8.2
13 years	63.3	32.6	4.1	56.3	36.6	7.1
14 years	61.8	32.7	5.6	51.8	41.1	7.1
15 years	68.4	27.2	4.4	58.2	36.5	5.2
16 years	68.3	26.6	5.1	55.8	35.3	8.9
17 years	70.7	26.2	3.1	52.6	38.4	9.0
	Standard error					
Both sexes 12-17 years	0.88	0.68	0.44	0.58	0.67	0.43
Boys 12-17 years	1.08	0.83	0.58	0.89	1.01	0.58
Girls 12-17 years	1.00	0.86	0.50	0.87	0.66	0.59

Table 45. Percent distributions of youths by perceived need for a dentist for the conditions toothache and sores in the mouth, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Toothache			Sores in the mouth		
	Definitely want to see dentist	Probably want to see dentist	Not want to see dentist	Definitely want to see dentist	Probably want to see dentist	Not want to see dentist
	Percent distributions					
Both sexes						
12-17 years	52.7	37.8	9.6	47.6	33.8	18.5
12 years	51.6	37.4	10.9	44.4	35.4	20.2
13 years	49.0	39.7	11.3	45.2	35.9	18.9
14 years	48.7	40.6	10.7	45.9	35.2	18.9
15 years	54.1	38.0	7.9	48.8	32.3	18.9
16 years	55.2	36.3	8.5	50.6	32.0	17.4
17 years	58.2	34.2	7.6	51.5	31.8	16.7
Boys						
12-17 years	51.3	37.3	11.3	42.9	34.7	22.4
12 years	52.0	35.5	12.5	43.1	35.0	22.0
13 years	50.0	35.9	14.1	41.3	35.2	23.5
14 years	46.8	41.4	11.7	43.7	33.6	22.7
15 years	52.9	38.4	8.8	42.9	32.7	24.4
16 years	53.9	36.0	10.2	43.2	35.2	21.6
17 years	52.9	36.8	10.2	43.4	36.9	19.7
Girls						
12-17 years	54.0	38.2	7.8	52.4	32.9	14.7
12 years	51.2	39.5	9.3	45.7	35.9	18.4
13 years	48.1	43.5	8.4	49.3	36.6	14.1
14 years	50.5	39.8	9.7	48.2	36.8	15.0
15 years	55.4	37.6	7.0	54.9	31.8	13.3
16 years	56.5	36.6	6.9	58.1	28.8	13.1
17 years	63.5	31.5	5.0	59.6	26.6	13.8
	Standard error					
Both sexes 12-17 years	0.79	0.72	0.32	0.85	0.58	0.61
Boys 12-17 years	1.10	1.06	0.51	1.41	0.68	0.81
Girls 12-17 years	0.96	0.94	0.48	0.99	0.88	0.77

Table 46. Percent distributions of youths by perceived need for a dentist for the conditions sore gums, stains on teeth, and bad breath, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Sore gums			Stains on teeth			Bad breath		
	Definitely want to see dentist	Probably want to see dentist	Not want to see dentist	Definitely want to see dentist	Probably want to see dentist	Not want to see dentist	Definitely want to see dentist	Probably want to see dentist	Not want to see dentist
	Percent distributions								
Both sexes									
12-17 years	39.0	44.2	16.9	33.6	50.6	15.8	8.2	18.3	73.6
12 years	39.6	43.7	16.8	37.9	46.7	15.4	7.7	18.7	73.6
13 years	38.5	44.4	17.1	33.8	48.0	18.3	9.0	16.7	74.4
14 years	37.6	45.9	16.5	33.5	50.4	16.0	7.2	16.4	76.4
15 years	37.0	44.1	18.9	32.7	51.4	15.9	9.8	19.4	70.8
16 years	40.6	42.5	16.9	30.5	53.7	15.7	6.9	19.5	73.6
17 years	40.7	44.4	15.0	32.8	54.1	13.1	8.4	19.1	72.5
Boys									
12-17 years	36.6	44.2	19.2	33.0	48.9	18.1	8.0	16.6	75.4
12 years	41.1	41.6	17.3	41.2	42.7	16.1	8.0	19.7	72.3
13 years	38.0	42.3	19.7	32.9	45.7	21.4	9.3	16.6	74.1
14 years	36.4	47.1	16.5	33.3	50.6	16.1	7.9	13.5	78.6
15 years	33.8	43.3	22.9	28.3	51.9	19.8	8.5	16.1	75.4
16 years	33.5	46.0	20.5	30.8	51.8	17.4	6.4	16.8	76.8
17 years	36.5	45.2	18.3	31.0	51.2	17.7	7.8	16.5	75.7
Girls									
12-17 years	41.3	44.1	14.5	34.2	52.4	13.4	8.3	20.0	71.7
12 years	38.0	45.8	16.2	34.6	50.8	14.6	7.4	17.7	74.9
13 years	39.0	46.6	14.3	34.6	50.3	15.1	8.6	16.7	74.7
14 years	38.8	44.6	16.5	33.8	50.3	15.9	6.5	19.4	74.1
15 years	40.3	44.9	14.9	37.2	50.8	11.9	11.2	22.7	66.1
16 years	47.8	38.9	13.2	30.2	55.7	14.0	7.5	22.2	70.3
17 years	44.9	43.5	11.6	34.6	57.0	8.4	9.1	21.8	69.2
	Standard error								
Both sexes 12-17 years	0.93	0.76	0.56	0.64	0.68	0.53	0.47	0.58	0.84
Boys 12-17 years	1.16	1.03	0.80	0.87	0.73	0.79	0.61	0.67	1.04
Girls 12-17 years	0.92	0.97	0.67	0.89	1.04	0.56	0.54	0.66	0.88

Table 47. Percent distribution of youths by number of times they had run away from home, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Number of times youth ran away			
	Total	Once	More than once	None
	Percent distribution			
Both sexes				
12-17 years	100.0	6.7	2.7	90.6
12 years	100.0	4.6	2.0	93.4
13 years	100.0	4.7	2.0	93.3
14 years	100.0	5.8	2.0	92.2
15 years	100.0	7.4	2.4	90.1
16 years	100.0	9.0	4.7	86.3
17 years	100.0	9.2	3.2	87.6
Boys				
12-17 years	100.0	7.3	2.8	89.9
12 years	100.0	5.6	2.4	92.0
13 years	100.0	4.6	1.5	93.9
14 years	100.0	6.3	2.2	91.5
15 years	100.0	9.0	2.6	88.4
16 years	100.0	10.2	4.0	85.8
17 years	100.0	8.9	4.1	87.1
Girls				
12-17 years	100.0	6.1	2.6	91.3
12 years	100.0	3.5	1.6	94.8
13 years	100.0	4.8	2.5	92.7
14 years	100.0	5.4	1.8	92.8
15 years	100.0	5.9	2.3	91.8
16 years	100.0	7.8	5.4	86.8
17 years	100.0	9.6	2.3	88.1
	Standard error			
Both sexes 12-17 years	...	0.49	0.20	0.58
Boys 12-17 years	...	0.61	0.29	0.80
Girls 12-17 years	...	0.58	0.32	0.68

Table 48. Percent distribution of youths who had ever run away from home by age at which they first ran away, and median age at which youths first ran away from home, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Age first ran away from home														
	Total	5 years and under	6 years	7 years	8 years	9 years	10 years	11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	16 years	17 years	Median age in years
	Percent distribution														
Both sexes															
12-17 years---	100.0	6.9	5.7	8.4	8.1	5.0	11.1	4.9	9.2	7.1	10.7	12.5	7.0	3.2	12.0
12 years----------	100.0	11.7	10.5	15.5	16.6	11.5	15.4	6.7	12.2	...	...	...	...	...	9.2
13 years----------	100.0	6.2	12.9	13.2	4.6	6.0	10.7	16.8	15.6	14.1	...	...	...	...	11.2
14 years----------	100.0	10.4	5.2	8.5	8.7	7.6	10.5	7.9	16.8	11.7	12.7	...	...	...	11.4
15 years----------	100.0	5.0	6.6	9.1	3.9	2.6	10.8	2.5	1.4	9.5	27.6	21.1	...	...	14.3
16 years----------	100.0	7.8	4.3	4.6	9.8	3.9	6.7	1.9	7.8	7.4	9.0	27.6	9.2	...	13.9
17 years----------	100.0	2.5	-	5.1	6.6	1.9	14.5	0.7	6.7	2.2	9.9	11.6	23.1	15.2	15.5
Boys															
12-17 years---	100.0	7.8	5.1	7.0	6.3	5.0	14.4	6.1	7.6	7.4	9.7	14.1	5.7	3.9	12.2
12 years----------	100.0	10.1	8.5	16.9	10.4	13.9	23.0	10.9	6.4	...	...	...	...	...	9.8
13 years----------	100.0	7.4	19.5	17.4	4.9	6.5	8.2	12.2	4.8	19.2	...	...	...	...	9.6
14 years----------	100.0	13.5	2.3	3.4	5.4	8.2	18.3	15.4	8.6	14.8	10.1	...	...	...	11.4
15 years----------	100.0	6.3	4.2	.7	5.0	0.9	12.8	1.8	2.4	6.9	27.1	27.9	...	...	14.7
16 years----------	100.0	9.5	3.5	4.5	7.5	5.0	8.0	2.8	8.6	7.3	7.6	28.6	6.9	...	13.6
17 years----------	100.0	2.1	-	2.3	4.6	-	17.4	1.2	12.7	2.1	2.2	11.4	20.2	18.7	15.6
Girls															
12-17 years---	100.0	5.8	6.5	10.1	10.2	4.9	7.3	3.6	11.1	6.8	11.9	10.7	8.5	2.4	12.7
12 years----------	100.0	14.2	13.5	13.4	26.4	7.7	3.3	-	21.5	...	...	...	...	...	8.8
13 years----------	100.0	5.2	7.2	9.5	4.3	5.5	12.8	20.7	25.1	9.6	...	...	...	...	11.8
14 years----------	100.0	7.1	8.2	13.9	12.2	7.0	2.2	-	25.5	8.3	15.5	...	...	...	11.2
15 years----------	100.0	3.0	10.1	15.6	2.2	5.1	7.9	3.6	-	13.1	28.2	11.1	...	...	13.7
16 years----------	100.0	5.9	5.3	4.8	12.3	2.6	5.1	0.9	6.9	7.4	10.5	26.5	11.6	...	14.3
17 years----------	100.0	3.0	-	8.2	8.9	4.1	11.2	-	-	2.3	12.9	11.9	26.3	11.3	15.4
	Standard error														
Both sexes 12-17 years--	---	1.70	0.88	1.25	1.33	0.76	1.36	0.88	1.07	1.18	1.48	1.65	1.29	0.68	---
Boys 12-17 years--	---	1.98	1.20	1.32	1.60	0.90	2.10	1.06	1.24	1.56	1.53	2.04	1.45	1.05	---
Girls 12-17 years-	---	2.10	1.21	2.09	2.59	1.03	1.72	1.20	1.93	1.60	2.09	2.70	1.92	0.77	---

Table 49. Percent distribution of youths by number of contacts with law enforcement officers, percent of youths reporting such contacts, and percent distribution of those youths by whether or not they were arrested, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Number of police contacts					Percent of youths reporting police contacts	Youths reporting police contacts			
	Total	One	Two	More than two	None		Total	Thought they were arrested	Not arrested	Don't know
	Percent distribution						Percent distribution			
Both sexes										
12-17 years	100.0	13.0	3.2	2.7	81.2	18.8	100.0	14.8	81.2	4.0
12 years	100.0	8.3	1.6	0.8	89.3	10.7	100.0	9.9	86.0	4.2
13 years	100.0	9.8	1.2	0.7	88.3	11.7	100.0	7.1	89.9	3.1
14 years	100.0	11.8	2.8	2.0	83.4	16.6	100.0	8.3	84.8	6.9
15 years	100.0	16.0	3.5	3.5	76.9	23.1	100.0	17.6	78.8	3.6
16 years	100.0	16.4	3.7	4.2	75.6	24.4	100.0	15.5	79.8	4.6
17 years	100.0	16.3	6.3	5.7	71.7	28.3	100.0	21.5	76.2	2.4
Boys										
12-17 years	100.0	19.0	5.4	4.9	70.7	29.3	100.0	17.0	79.1	3.9
12 years	100.0	11.4	2.8	1.4	84.4	15.6	100.0	9.4	85.0	5.6
13 years	100.0	16.1	2.3	1.4	80.1	19.9	100.0	7.6	88.9	3.6
14 years	100.0	17.9	4.8	3.5	73.7	26.3	100.0	8.9	85.4	5.6
15 years	100.0	22.7	6.4	6.2	64.7	35.3	100.0	21.1	74.7	4.2
16 years	100.0	24.9	5.8	7.3	62.0	38.0	100.0	18.4	76.8	4.8
17 years	100.0	27.0	11.0	10.7	56.2	43.8	100.0	25.5	73.6	0.9
Girls										
12-17 years	100.0	6.8	0.9	0.5	91.9	8.1	100.0	6.4	89.0	4.6
12 years	100.0	5.4	0.5	0.2	94.2	5.8	100.0	11.3	88.7	-
13 years	100.0	3.2	0.1	-	96.7	3.3	100.0	4.0	96.0	-
14 years	100.0	5.4	0.8	0.5	93.3	6.7	100.0	5.7	82.4	11.8
15 years	100.0	9.2	0.6	0.8	89.4	10.6	100.0	5.6	92.6	1.7
16 years	100.0	7.8	1.6	1.0	89.6	10.4	100.0	4.2	91.8	4.0
17 years	100.0	10.5	1.6	0.5	87.4	12.6	100.0	7.5	85.2	7.3
	Standard error									
Both sexes 12-17 years	...	0.61	0.29	0.24	0.85	0.70	...	1.20	1.36	0.65
Boys 12-17 years	...	0.94	0.55	0.42	1.24	1.12	...	1.32	1.48	0.70
Girls 12-17 years	...	0.68	0.17	0.13	0.76	0.71	...	1.48	2.26	1.29

Table 50. Percent of youths who had ever dated, percent distribution of youths who had dated by age at first date, and median age at first date, according to sex and age, with standard errors for totals: United States, 1966-70

Sex and age	Percent of youths who ever dated	Age at first date									
		Total who ever dated	10 years and under	11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	16 years	17 years	Median age in years
		Percent distribution									
Both sexes											
12-17 years--	47.8	100.0	1.8	2.7	9.2	20.2	29.0	25.3	10.7	1.1	15.1
12 years	8.5	100.0	11.5	31.6	56.9	...	...	...	...	...	12.6
13 years	18.2	100.0	3.9	5.8	32.1	58.2	...	...	...	...	13.7
14 years	37.9	100.0	2.4	2.8	13.4	42.2	39.3	...	...	...	14.2
15 years	63.2	100.0	0.8	1.6	5.5	18.1	45.7	28.3	...	...	15.0
16 years	78.6	100.0	1.3	1.2	3.7	12.5	28.4	40.8	12.0	...	15.6
17 years	88.8	100.0	1.1	1.0	4.8	12.1	21.5	29.3	26.2	3.8	15.8
Boys											
12-17 years--	46.5	100.0	2.6	3.5	11.3	21.0	27.2	22.6	10.4	1.3	14.9
12 years	10.0	100.0	16.0	32.2	51.8	...	...	...	...	...	12.5
13 years	17.9	100.0	4.0	7.0	32.4	56.7	...	...	...	...	13.6
14 years	38.2	100.0	3.2	3.3	14.9	46.9	31.7	...	...	...	14.1
15 years	60.0	100.0	1.4	2.7	7.8	21.6	44.4	22.2	...	...	14.8
16 years	75.9	100.0	2.1	1.8	4.4	12.9	27.9	39.2	11.8	...	15.5
17 years	85.1	100.0	1.6	1.3	8.2	9.4	21.4	27.6	25.8	4.7	15.8
Girls											
12-17 years--	49.2	100.0	1.0	1.8	7.3	19.5	30.6	27.8	11.0	0.9	15.2
12 years	7.0	100.0	5.0	30.6	64.4	...	...	...	...	...	12.8
13 years	18.5	100.0	3.7	4.6	31.9	57.6	...	...	...	...	13.7
14 years	37.6	100.0	1.6	2.2	11.7	37.2	47.2	...	...	...	14.4
15 years	66.5	100.0	0.3	0.5	3.5	15.0	46.9	33.9	...	...	15.2
16 years	81.3	100.0	0.7	0.7	3.1	12.1	28.8	42.4	12.3	...	15.6
17 years	92.6	100.0	0.7	0.7	1.7	14.7	21.6	31.0	26.7	3.0	15.8
		Standard error									
Both sexes 12-17 years-	1.05	...	0.23	0.31	0.76	0.75	1.14	1.12	0.65	0.20	---
Boys 12-17 years---	1.45	...	0.32	0.52	0.87	1.15	1.51	1.38	1.01	0.34	---
Girls 12-17 years--	1.01	...	0.31	0.39	0.88	1.00	1.63	1.42	0.67	0.27	---

APPENDIX I
TECHNICAL NOTES

The Survey Design

The sample designs for the first three programs, or Cycles I-III, of the Health Examination Survey have been similar, in that each has been a multistage, stratified probability sample of clusters of households in land-based segments. The successive elements for this sample design are primary sampling unit (PSU), census enumeration district (ED), segment (a cluster of households), household, eligible youth, and finally, the sample youth.

The 40 sample areas and the segments utilized in the design of Cycle III were the same as those in Cycle II. Previous reports describe in detail the sample design used for Cycle II and in addition discuss the problems and considerations given to other types of sampling frames and whether or not to control the selection of siblings.[5, 6]

Requirements and limitations placed on the design for Cycle III, similar to those for the design for Cycle II, were that:

1. The target population be defined as the civilian, noninstitutional population of the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii, in the age range of 12 through 17 years, with the special exclusion of children residing on reservation lands of the American Indians. The latter exclusion was adopted as a result of operational problems encountered on these lands in Cycle I.
2. The time period of data collection be limited to about 3 years for each cycle and the length of the individual examination within the specially constructed mobile examination center be between 2 and 3 hours.
3. Ancillary data be collected on specially designed household, medical history, and school questionnaires, and from copies of birth certificates.
4. Examination objectives be related primarily to factors of physical and intellectual growth and development.
5. The sample be sufficiently large to yield reliable findings within broad geographic regions and population density groups as well as within age, sex, and limited socioeconomic groups for the total sample.

The sample was drawn jointly with the U.S. Bureau of the Census, beginning with the 1960 decennial census list of addresses and the nearly 1,900 PSU's into which the entire United States was divided. Each PSU is either a standard metropolitan statistical area (SMSA), a county, or a group of two or three contiguous counties. These PSU's were grouped into 40 strata, with each stratum having an average size of about 4.5 million persons. Stratification was accomplished so as to maximize the degree of homogeneity within strata with regard to the population size of the PSU's, degree of urbanization, geographic proximity, and degree of industrialization. The 40 strata were then classified into four broad geographic regions of 10 strata each and then within each region, cross-classified by four population density classes and classes of rate of population change from 1950 to 1960. Using a modified Goodman-Kish controlled-selection technique, one PSU was drawn from each of the 40 strata.

Generally, within each PSU, 20 census enumeration districts were selected, with the probability of selection of a particular ED proportional to its population in the age group 5-9 years in the 1960 census, which by 1966 approximated the target population for Cycle III. A similar method was used for selecting one segment (a smaller cluster of households) in each

ED. Because of the approximately 3-year time interval between Cycle II and Cycle III, the Cycle III sampling frame was updated for new construction and to compensate for segments where housing was partially or totally demolished to make room for highway construction or urban redevelopment. Each of the resulting 20 segments within a PSU was either a bounded area or a cluster of households (or addresses). All youths in the appropriate age range who resided at the address visited were eligible youths, i.e., eligible for inclusion in the sample. Operational considerations made it necessary to reduce the number of prospective examinees at any one location to a maximum of 200. When the number of eligible youths in a particular location exceeded this number, the "excess" eligible youths were deleted from the sample through a systematic sampling technique. Youths who were not selected as sample youths in the Cycle III sample, but who were previously examined in Cycle II, were scheduled for examination if time permitted and will be included in special longitudinal analyses. In addition, individual twins who were deleted from the Cycle III sample were also scheduled for examination, as they were in Cycle II, to provide data on pairs of twins for future analysis. These data are not included in the report as part of the national probability sample of youths.

The sample was selected in Cycle III, as it had been for the children in Cycle II, to contain proportional representation of youths from families having only one eligible youth, two eligible youths, and so on, so as to be representative of the total target population. However, since households were one of the elements in the sample frame, the number of related youths in the resulting sample is greater than would result from a design which sampled youths 12-17 years without regard to household. The resulting estimated mean measurements or rates should be unbiased but their sampling variabilities will be somewhat greater than those from a more costly, time-consuming, systematic sample design in which every kth youth would be selected.

The total probability sample for Cycle III included 7,514 youths representative of the approximately 22.7 million noninstitutionalized U.S. youths of 12-17 years. The sample contained youths from 25 different States, with approximately 1,000 in each single year of age.

The response rate in Cycle III was 90 percent, with 6,768 youths examined out of the total sample. These examinees were closely representative of those in the population from which the sample was drawn with respect to age, sex, race, region, population density, and population growth in area of residence. Hence it appears unlikely that nonresponse could bias the findings appreciably.

Reliability

While measurement processes in the surveys were carefully standardized and closely controlled, the correspondence between true population figures and HES results cannot be expected to be exact. Survey data are imperfect for three major reasons: (1) results are subject to sampling error, (2) the actual conduct of a survey never agrees perfectly with the design, and (3) the measurement processes themselves are inexact, even though standardized and controlled.

Data recorded for each sample youth are inflated in the estimation process to characterize the larger universe of which the sample youths are representative. The weights used in this inflation process are a product of the reciprocal of the probability of selecting the youth, an adjustment for nonresponse cases, and a poststratified ratio adjustment that increases precision by bringing survey results into closer alinement with known U.S. population figures by color and sex within single years of age for ages 12-17.

In the third cycle of the Health Examination Survey, as for the children in Cycle II, the sample was the result of three principal stages of selection: the single PSU from each stratum, the 20 segments from each sample PSU, and the sample youth from the eligible youths. The probability of selecting an individual youth is the product of the probability of selection at each stage.

Because the strata are roughly equal in population size and a nearly equal number of sample youths were examined in each of the sample PSU's, the sample design is essentially self-weighting with respect to the target population; that is, each youth 12 through 17 years of age had about the same probability of being drawn into the sample.

The adjustment upward for nonresponse is intended to minimize the impact of nonresponse on final estimates by imputing to nonrespondents the characteristics of "similar" respondents. Here "similar" respondents in a sample PSU were defined as examined youths of the same age (in years) and sex as youths not examined in that sample PSU.

The poststratified ratio adjustment used in the third cycle achieved most of the gains in precision that would have been attained if the sample had been drawn from a population stratified by age, color, and sex and makes the final sample estimates of population agree exactly with independent controls prepared by the Bureau of the Census for the U.S. noninstitutionalized population as of March 9, 1968 (approximate midpoint of the survey for Cycle III) by color and sex for each single year of age 12-17. The weight of every responding sample youth in each of the 24 age, color, and sex classes is adjusted upward or downward so that the weighted total within the class equals the independent population control. Final sample frequencies and estimated population frequencies as of the approximate midpoint of the survey are presented in table I by age and sex.

Extent of Missing Questionnaire Data

In addition to youths who were selected for the sample but for various reasons did not participate, there were some whose questionnaires were missing or incomplete. The extent of missing self-report questionnaires was very small, less than 1 percent for each of the two questionnaires used for this report. The extent of incomplete questionnaires, or item nonreponse, was also very small: about 81 percent of the 92 individual questions discussed in this report had item nonresponse of 1 percent or less, about 9 percent had item nonresponse of between 1 and 2 percent, and nine of the questions (about 10 percent of those considered here) had nonresponse rates greater than 2 percent. Only three items had more than 5-percent item nonresponse, the highest being 12 percent. Because of the small amount of nonresponse, a separate category of "unknown" is seldom shown in the tables of this report. Unknowns were usually excluded from the estimates. It was assumed that the small number of youths who did not answer a question were distributed in the same manner as those for whom responses were available.

Sampling and Measurement Error

In the present report, reference has been made to efforts to minimize bias and variability of measurement techniques. The probability design of the survey makes possible the calculation of sampling errors. The sampling error is used here to determine how imprecise the survey test results may be because they result from a sample

Table I. Sample and estimated population frequency distributions of youths 12-17 years of age in the noninstitutionalized population of the United States: Health Examination Survey, 1966-70

Age	Number of youths in sample			Estimated number of youths in population as of midsurvey		
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
				Number in thousands		
Total	6,768	3,545	3,223	22,692	11,489	11,203
12 years	1,190	643	547	4,002	2,032	1,970
13 years	1,208	626	582	3,952	2,006	1,946
14 years	1,204	618	586	3,852	1,951	1,901
15 years	1,116	613	503	3,751	1,900	1,851
16 years	1,092	556	536	3,625	1,836	1,789
17 years	958	489	469	3,510	1,764	1,746

rather than from the measurement of all elements in the universe. The estimation of sampling errors for a study of the type of the Health Examination Survey is difficult for at least three reasons: (1) measurement error and "pure" sampling error are confounded in the data, and it is difficult to find a procedure that will either completely include both or treat one or the other separately; (2) the survey design and estimation procedure are complex and accordingly require computationally involved techniques for the calculation of variances; and (3) thousands of statistics are derived from the survey, many for subclasses of the population for which the number of sample cases is small. Estimates of sampling error are obtained from the sample data and are themselves subject to sampling error, which may be large when the number of cases in a cell is small or, occasionally, even when the number of cases is substantial.

Estimates of approximate sampling variability for most statistics presented in this report are included in the detailed tables or can be computed from table II. These estimates, called standard errors, have been prepared by a replication technique that yields overall variability through observation of variability among random subsamples of the total sample. The method reflects both "pure" sampling variance and a part of the measurement variance, and is described in previously published reports.[14,15]

Generally, the percentages shown in the detailed tables for all youths, all girls, and all boys are accompanied by their standard errors. Standard errors associated with estimates for single year age groups (e.g., all 12-year-olds) or for single year age-sex groups (e.g, 16-year-old girls) could not be shown conveniently in the detailed tables but can be estimated from table II. For example, if 5 percent of all youths of a specific age (e.g., 12-year-olds) were estimated to possess a characteristic, one could obtain the corresponding standard error of 0.76 from column A of table II. Column B permits the estimation of the standard error corresponding to a percentage with a population base of a single year age-sex group. For example, if 30 percent of 16-year-old girls were estimated to possess a characteristic, the standard error associated with that percentage would be 2.18. Percentages exceeding 50 should be subtracted from 100. The standard error corresponding to the resulting percentage can then be applied to the original percentage of interest.

Table II. Standard errors associated with selected percent estimates for single-year age groups (A) and for single-year age-sex groups (B): Health Examination Survey, 1966-70

Percent	Base for percent	
	A	B
	Estimated standard error	
1	0.40	0.50
2	0.52	0.68
3	0.61	0.82
4	0.69	0.94
5	0.76	1.04
6	0.83	1.14
7	0.88	1.22
8	0.94	1.30
9	0.98	1.37
10	1.03	1.43
15	1.22	1.70
20	1.36	1.90
25	1.47	2.06
30	1.55	2.18
35	1.61	2.27
40	1.65	2.33
45	1.68	2.37
50	1.69	2.38

Hypothesis Testing

In accordance with usual practice, the interval estimate for any statistic was considered to be the range within one standard error of the tabulated statistic with 68-percent confidence and the range within two standard errors of the tabulated statistic with 95-percent confidence. The latter is used as the level of statistical significance in this report.

An approximation of the standard error of a difference $d=x-y$ of two statistics x and y is given by the formula $S_d=\left(S_x^2+S_y^2\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ where S_x and S_y are the standard errors, respectively, of x and y. Of course, where the two groups or measures are positively or negatively correlated, this formula will give an overestimate or underestimate of the actual standard error.

The procedure used in this report for testing the significance of difference between estimates consisted in dividing the difference between the

two estimates by the standard error of the difference as computed above. If the absolute value of the result was 2.00 or more, the difference was considered statistically significant at approximately the 95-percent confidence level.

Small Categories

In some tables statistics may be shown for cells for which the sample size is so small that the sampling error may be larger than the statistic itself. Such statistics are included in this report, along with their corresponding standard errors, in the belief that the information, while not meeting strict standards of precision, may lend an overall impression of the survey findings and may be of interest to subject-matter specialists.

———○○○———

APPENDIX II

SELF-REPORT QUESTIONNAIRES

Health Habits and History Questionnaire

CONFIDENTIAL – All information which would permit identification of the individual will be held strictly confidential, will be used only by persons engaged in and for the purposes of the survey and will not be disclosed or released to others for any other purposes (22 FR 1687).

DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
NATIONAL HEALTH SURVEY

Sample No.

HEALTH HABITS AND HISTORY – Youth

Name (Last, First, Middle)	SEGMENT	SERIAL	COL. NO.

INSTRUCTIONS: On the following pages you will find a set of questions dealing with your health. Since every person is different, there are no "standard" answers to the questions; just answer them as fully and honestly as you can. Your answers will be kept confidential. Do your best to pick the most likely answer from among the choices given. Only if you really don't know the answer check "Don't know." WHEN YOU HAVE COMPLETED THE QUESTIONNAIRE, PLEASE MAIL IT BACK TO THE SURVEY IN THE ENVELOPE WE LEFT WITH YOU – THERE IS NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IF YOU USE OUR ENVELOPE.

1. SEX	2. AGE	3. DATE OF BIRTH (*Month, Day, Year*)
1 ☐ Male 2 ☐ Female		

4. How would you describe your present health?
   1 ☐ Poor 2 ☐ Fair 3 ☐ Good 4 ☐ Very good 5 ☐ Excellent
   IF POOR OR FAIR: What is wrong? _____

5. Do you have any problems you might like to talk over with a doctor?
   1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No
   IF YES: What are they? _____

6. Do you now use any medicine regularly, not counting vitamins?
   1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No 3 ☐ Don't know
   IF YES:
   a. What is its name? _____ 2 ☐ Don't know
   b. What is it for? _____ 2 ☐ Don't know
   c. Did a doctor say you should use it?
      1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No 3 ☐ Don't know
   d. How long have you been using it? _____

7. Have you ever broken any bones?
   1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No 3 ☐ Don't know
   IF YES:
   a. How many times? (Several bones broken at the same time count as once.)
      1 ☐ Once 2 ☐ Twice 3 ☐ Three times or more
   b. How did it happen? _____

8. Have you ever had any other injuries or accidents?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No

IF YES: What happened? _____

_____

9. As a result of an accident, a blow, a fall, or other such cause, have you ever been unconscious?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No 3 ☐ Don't know

10. Have you ever stayed in a hospital *(overnight or longer)*?

1 ☐ Yes, just once 3 ☐ No

2 ☐ Yes, more than once 4 ☐ Don't know

IF YES: What was the longest time you ever spent in a hospital, and for what reason?

How long: _____ Reason _____

_____

_____

11. What was the most serious illness or disease you had in your life? _____

_____

a. How old were you when it started? _____ years

b. Did you have to stay in a hospital overnight or longer?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No 3 ☐ Don't remember

c. What lasting effects did it leave? _____

_____

_____

HERE ARE A FEW QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR EYES AND EARS.

12. Do you ever wear glasses or contact lenses?

1 ☐ Yes, glasses

2 ☐ Yes, contact lenses

3 ☐ No

IF YES:

a. With your glasses *(or contact lenses)* can you see as well as most people?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No

b. Do you think you need new glasses?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No

c. When do you wear them?

1 ☐ Not all day 2 ☐ All day

IF NOT ALL DAY:

d. When? *(Check all that apply)*

1 ☐ For seeing at a distance

2 ☐ For reading

3 ☐ For TV

4 ☐ Other *(Specify)* _____

_____

IF NO:

Do you think you need glasses?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No

(GO ON TO QUESTION 13)

13. Is there anything wrong with your eyes *(except what is corrected by your glasses or contact lenses)*?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No

IF YES: What? _____

_____

14. Do you have any difficulty hearing?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No

15. Were your ears ever damaged or injured in any way?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No 3 ☐ Don't know

a. IF YES: a. In what way and when? _____

b. Which ear(s)? _____

16. In the past year, how often did you have earaches?

1 ☐ Not at all *(I can't remember any)*

2 ☐ Not very often *(about once a month or less)*

3 ☐ Quite often *(more than once a month)*

17. Have you ever had any other kind of trouble with your ears?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No

IF YES: What was it? _____

18. Do you think your teeth need straightening?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No 3 ☐ Don't know

19. Do you have any difficulty talking or speaking *(like stuttering or lisping)*?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No

20. Is there anything wrong with the way you walk?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No

IF YES: What? _____

_____

21. Is there anything that prevents your complete use of your legs?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No

IF YES: What? _____

_____

22. Is there anything that prevents your complete use of your arms?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No

IF YES: What? _____

_____

23. Have you ever been prevented for reasons of health from taking part in hard *(physical)* work, exercise, or games?

1 ☐ Yes x ☐ No

IF YES:

a. Why? _____

b. Did a doctor advise this?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No 3 ☐ Don't know

c. Are you now forbidden to do some of these things?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No

24. At the present time, do you think you are:

1 ☐ Underweight
2 ☐ About the right weight
3 ☐ Overweight

25. Would you say that you appear to be:

1 ☐ Thinner than most persons of your age
2 ☐ About the same as most persons your age
3 ☐ Heavier than most persons of your age

26. At this time, would you like to be:

1 ☐ Thinner than you are
2 ☐ About the same weight as you are
3 ☐ Heavier than you are

27. At this time, would you like to be:

1 ☐ Less tall than you are
2 ☐ About as tall as you are
3 ☐ Taller than you are

28. In the last year or two, have you had any backaches?

1 ☐ Yes, quite often
2 ☐ Yes, occasionally
3 ☐ No

29. Do you sleep alone in your own room?

1 ☐ Yes
2 ☐ No

IF NO:

Who else sleeps in the room?

1 ☐ Brother(s)
2 ☐ Sister(s)
3 ☐ Father
4 ☐ Mother
5 ☐ Other person(s)

30. How often do you have trouble getting to sleep or staying asleep?

1 ☐ Very often
2 ☐ Only from time to time
3 ☐ Never

31. How often do you have bad dreams or nightmares?

1 ☐ Quite frequently
2 ☐ Only from time to time
3 ☐ Never

32. As far as you know, have you walked in your sleep in the last year or so?

1 ☐ Yes
2 ☐ No

33. Do you have acne *(pimples or blackheads)*?

1 ☐ Yes x ☐ No

IF YES:

a. At what age did it start?_____years

b. Do you use any treatment for it? 1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No

c. Have you seen a doctor about it? 1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No

d. How much does it bother or worry you?

1 ☐ Quite a lot 2 ☐ Some but not too much 3 ☐ Very little

4 ☐ Not at all

34. Have you ever been away from your family *(home)* for at least two months?

1 ☐ Yes, once x ☐ No

2 ☐ Yes, more than once

IF YES:

a. Where did you stay? *(Check all that apply)*

1 ☐ Camp 4 ☐ With a relative

2 ☐ Boarding school 5 ☐ Elsewhere

3 ☐ Hospital

b. How old were you when this happened for the first time?_____years

35. Are you going to school? *(If you are now on vacation and will return to school, check "Yes.")*

1 ☐ Yes

IF YES:

a. During the school year, how many hours do you work? *(not counting homework for school)*

1 ☐ I don't work (GO TO QUESTION 36).

2 ☐ 1-4 hours a week

3 ☐ 5-9 hours a week

4 ☐ 10-20 hours a week

5 ☐ Over 20 hours a week

6 ☐ I work, but can't tell how many hours

b. What kinds of work do you do?

_____

_____

_____

c. Do you get paid for this work?

_____

2 ☐ No

IF NO:

aa. Do you have a job?

7 ☐ Yes

8 ☐ No, but I am looking for one:

9 ☐ No, and I am not looking for one.

(AFTER THIS ANSWER, GO TO QUESTION 37).

36. Do you work during vacation time?

1 ☐ Yes, full-time 2 ☐ Yes, part-time 3 ☐ No

37. Do you get an allowance from your family *(so much money per week, for example)*?

1 ☐ Yes x ☐ No

IF YES: (IF NO, GO ON TO QUESTION 38)

a. Who decides the amount you are to get?

1 ☐ Father 2 ☐ Mother 3 ☐ Both parents 4 ☐ Someone else
(Specify) _____

b. Who do you think should decide about it?

1 ☐ Father 2 ☐ Mother 3 ☐ Both parents 4 ☐ Someone else
(Specify) _____

c. Are there duties or chores you have to perform to get this allowance?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No

d. Is your allowance ever held back as a punishment?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No

38. Now about your eating habits, do you think you eat

1 ☐ Too much 2 ☐ About the right amount 3 ☐ Too little

39. When did you last see a doctor for a checkup *(routine examination)*?

1 ☐ In the last year 4 ☐ Never
2 ☐ One-two years ago 5 ☐ I don't remember
3 ☐ Over two years ago

40. When did you last see a doctor for treatment?

1 ☐ In the last year 4 ☐ Never
2 ☐ One-two years ago 5 ☐ I don't remember
3 ☐ Over two years ago

41. When did you last see a dentist for a checkup *(routine examination)*?

1 ☐ In the last year 4 ☐ Never
2 ☐ One-two years ago 5 ☐ I don't remember
3 ☐ Over two years ago

42. When did you last see a dentist for treatment?

1 ☐ In the last year 4 ☐ Never
2 ☐ One-two years ago 5 ☐ I don't remember
3 ☐ Over two years ago

ONE LAST QUESTION

43. About how much time would you guess you spend in the usual day *(enter number of hours or fraction of hours, or zero, as appropriate)*?

a. Watching television _____

b. Listening to radio _____

c. Reading newspapers, comics, magazines _____

d. Reading books *(except comic books)* _____

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Health Behavior Questionnaire

CONFIDENTIAL – All information which would permit identification of the individual will be held strictly confidential, will be used only by persons engaged in and for the purposes of the survey and will not be disclosed or released to others for any other purposes (22 FR 1687).

DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
NATIONAL HEALTH SURVEY

HEALTH BEHAVIOR

Sample No.

NAME OF YOUTH *(Last, First, Middle)*	SEX ☐ Male ☐ Female	AGE

INSTRUCTIONS: On the following pages you will find a set of questions dealing with your health behavior. Since every person is different, there are no "standard" answers to the questions; just answer them as fully and honestly as you can. Your answers will be kept confidential. Do your best to pick the most likely answer from among the choices given. Only if you really don't know the answer check 'Don't know."

1. Looking ahead, what would you like to do about school? *(Check one only)*

   1 ☐ Quit school as soon as possible
   2 ☐ Finish high school
   3 ☐ Get some college or other training after high school
   4 ☐ Finish college and get a college degree
   5 ☐ Finish college and take further training *(medical, law or other professional school, etc.)*

2. What do you think will happen about school? (CHECK ONE ONLY)

   1 ☐ Quit school as soon as possible
   2 ☐ Finish high school
   3 ☐ Get some college or other training after high school
   4 ☐ Finish college and get a college degree
   5 ☐ Finish college and take further training *(medical, law or other professional school, etc.)*

3. Have you ever had a date? *(That is, a boy and girl going out together, whether or not anyone else was along.)*

   1 ☐ Yes x ☐ No

   IF YES: How old were you when you first had a date?_____ years

4. Who makes most of t e decisions on the follow ng: *(Check one in each row.)*

	You alone (1)	Father (2)	Mother (3)	Both parents (4)	Father and you (5)	Mother and you (6)	Parents and you (7)	Other person(s) (8)	Nobody (9)
a. Choosing your clothes									
b. How to spend your money									
c. Which friends to go out with									
d. How late you can stay out									

5. How many times have you run away from home? *(That means, leaving or staying away on purpose, knowing you would be missed, intending to stay away from home, at least for some time.)*

1 ☐ Once 2 ☐ More than once 3 ☐ Never

IF ONCE OR MORE:

How old were you then?_____years

6. How many times have you had anything to do with police, sheriff, or juvenile officers for something you did or they thought you did?

1 ☐ Once 2 ☐ Twice 3 ☐ More than twice 4 ☐ Never

IF ONCE OR MORE:

a. What was wrong?_____

_____

b. Were you arrested? 1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No 3 ☐ Don't know

c. In what way were you punished?_____

_____ 7 ☐ Not at all

7. How old were you when you smoked for the first time?_____Years

☐ Never tried (SKIP TO QUESTION 10)

8. How old were you when you began smoking regularly?_____Years

☐ Never have smoked regularly

9. About how many cigarettes do you smoke per day?

1 ☐ I don't smoke at all

2 ☐ I don't smoke cigarettes *(but I smoke a pipe or cigars)*

3 ☐ Less than 1/2 pack

4 ☐ 1/2 pack but less than 1 pack

5 ☐ 1 pack but less than 2 packs

6 ☐ 2 packs or more

10. At what hour do you usually go to bed when the next day is a school or work day?_____

11. Do you ever feel tense, nervous, or fidgety?

1 ☐ Yes, often

2 ☐ Yes, sometimes

3 ☐ Yes, but rarely

4 ☐ Never

12. How important do you think it is for a young person to have each of the qualities or characteristics listed below? *(Put one check-mark in each row.)*

	Extremely Important (1)	Important (2)	Slightly Important (3)	Unimportant (4)
a. To be neat and clean				
b. To be able to defend oneself				
c. To have self-control				
d. To be happy				
e. To obey one's parents				
f. To be dependable				
g. To be considerate of others				
h. To face life's problems calmly				
i. To obey the law				
j. To be ambitious				
k. To know how to keep in good health				

13. If you had any of the following conditions, would you want a doctor to know about it? (Includes your seeing him or a telephone call about it.) *(Place one checkmark in each row.)*

If I had this condition, I would:

	Definitely want to see a doctor (1)	Probably want to see a doctor (2)	Not want to see a doctor (3)
a. Stomach ache			
b. Sore throat			
c. Hurt all over			
d. Stiff neck or back			
e. Headache			
f. Vomit *(throw up)*			
g. Loss of appetite			
h. Overtiredness			
i. Pain in chest			
j. Lump in stomach or abdomen			
k. Blood in urine or bowel movement			
l. Nervousness			

14. If you had any of the following conditions, would you want to see a dentist about it? *(Place one checkmark in each row.)*

If I had this condition, I would:

	Definitely want to see a dentist (1)	Probably want to see a dentist (2)	Not want to see a dentist (3)
a. Crooked teeth			
b. Sore gums			
c. Bad breath			
d. A toothache			
e. Sores in the mouth			
f. Stains on the teeth that would not brush off			
g. Hole or cavity in a tooth—even though it did not hurt			

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